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The Cincinnati.



To the HONORABLE Society of the CINCINNATI
the Monument of GEN^l GEORGE WASHINGTON
is respectfully dedicated by the
A. West

Society of the Cincinnati

The Cincinnati

in the

Centennial Celebration

of the

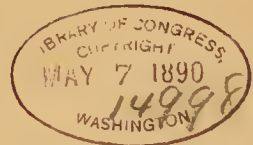
Inauguration of the Government of the United States
under the Constitution,

and of

George Washington

as President.

April, 1889.



Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1890, by
ASA BIRD GARDINER, LL.D., *Secretary General*,
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PRESS OF
EXCHANGE PRINTING COMPANY,
47 BROAD STREET,
NEW YORK.



Introduction.



THE National Centennial Celebration of the inauguration of the Government of the United States of America under the Constitution, and of the induction of His Excellency General George Washington, LL.D., President General of the Society of the Cincinnati, into the office of President of the United States, was initiated by the New York Historical Society, the New York Chamber of Commerce, and the Society of the Sons of the Revolution, whose respective Committees were combined under the chairmanship of the Hon. Abram Stevens Hewitt, LL.D., Mayor of the City of New York, and, with the addition of other well-known citizens, formed into appropriate committees.

In such a National celebration the members of the Society of the Cincinnati could not but take the deepest interest, because the sole political principle embodied in 1783 in the "Institution" of their Order had been directed towards securing an adequate and effective National Government for National purposes.

The original Cincinnati had actively and *potentially* exerted themselves to this end, and, in the Constitution, had found an exemplification of all their hopes, while, at the same time, its ratification and inauguration had terminated the political efforts of their order.

It was, therefore, peculiarly appropriate that the Cincinnati should initiate the Centennial Celebration, and for this pur-

pose, in compliance with the desire of many members, a committee took charge of the necessary arrangements for a Commemorative Banquet, and for religious services in Saint Paul's Chapel, in Broadway, where the Cincinnati had in the early days of the Republic, after the peace of 1783, often assembled.



Executive Committee for the Commemorative Celebration.

The Secretary General.	Henry Thayer Drowne,
James M. Tarnum,	John Cropper,
Charles Beatty Alexander.	



NEW YORK, 10th April, 1889.

To the Members

of the Society of the Cincinnati.

The Centennial of the Inauguration of General Washington as President of the United States, and of the Government under the Constitution, will be appropriately celebrated in the City of New York, on the 29th and 30th April, and 1st May, 1889, under the management of a Committee of Citizens duly designated for that purpose.

This celebration, being national in character and commemorative of a great event, receives the cordial co-operation of the General Government, and of the Governments, respectively, of the States and Territories.

The Cincinnati are particularly interested in the due observance of this Centennial because the only political principle incorporated in their "Institution" found expression in the Constitution of the United States, and thenceforward the Order devoted itself to its domestic concerns.

The history of the Cincinnati, however, shows how earnestly and potentially they strove to secure the formation and adoption of the Constitution, and when their President General had been inaugurated as President of the United States, they told him, in their congratulations on the following 4th of July, that the Constitution of the United States was what they had fought for in the Revolution.

From 1783 to 1789, the Order of the Cincinnati was the only organization in the United States devoted to "promoting and cherishing between the respective States that *Union and National Honor*, so essentially necessary to their happiness and to the future dignity of the American Empire."

It seems incumbent, therefore, on the Cincinnati to celebrate in some appropriate way this National Centennial.

In accordance with the expressed desire of many members, and with the cordial consent of the Standing Committee of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New York, it is proposed that the members of the Cincinnati shall *inaugurate* the Centennial by a Subscription Banquet in the City of New York, on Saturday evening, the 27th April, and on Sunday, the 28th April, proceed to Saint Paul's Chapel, Broadway, for religious services, to be conducted by the Right Reverend William Stevens Perry, Bishop of Iowa, assisted by the Reverend Dr. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, President of the South Carolina State Society of Cincinnati, Chaplains General of the Order.

You are respectfully requested, immediately upon receipt of this communication, to notify Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., Secretary General of the Order of the Cincinnati, 31 Nassau Street, New York City, whether you will attend.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

EDMUND L. BAYLIES, of Massachusetts Society.
EDGAR HOLDEN, M. D., of Massachusetts Society.
JAMES M. VARNUM, of Rhode Island Society.
HENRY THAYER DROWNE, of Rhode Island Society.
ALEXANDER JAMES CLINTON, of New York Society.
JOHN CROPPER, of New York Society.
CLIFFORD STANLEY SIMS, of New Jersey Society.
FRANCIS BARBER OGDEN, of New Jersey Society.
WILLIAM WAYNE, of Pennsylvania Society.
CHARLES B. ALEXANDER, of Pennsylvania Society.
RICHARD M. McSHERRY, of Maryland Society.
H. RIEMAN DUVAL, of Maryland Society.
FELIX WARLEY, of South Carolina Society.
THOMAS PINCKNEY, of South Carolina Society.

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The responses to this communication were most earnest and appreciative.

Those members, not abroad, who were prevented by sickness or other cause from participation, made haste to express their regrets at their inability to participate.

As illustrative of the sentiments of the members :

Commodore William D. Whiting, U. S. Navy, an hereditary member in the Massachusetts State Society, wrote, from his home in New York City, returning thanks for the invitation, and added :

"I regret, on account of total blindness, my inability to join with our fellow members on so interesting an occasion."

Brevet Brig.-Gen. William Raymond Lee, of Roxbury, Mass., and Mr. Samuel C. Clarke, of Marietta, Ga., hereditary members in the same State Society, regretted their inability to attend, on account, respectively, of illness and the infirmities of old age.

Lieut. Alfred B. Jackson, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, an hereditary member in the same State Society, regretted that his public duties at the U. S. Military Academy would prevent his attendance.

Mr. John Beatty, of Doylestown, Penn., an hereditary member of the Pennsylvania State Society, expressed his "extreme veneration for everything relating to General Washington," but found himself, by reason of his advanced age, forced "to give up the pleasure of attending the meeting."

The Hon. John Thompson Nixon, LL. D., of Trenton, N. J., U. S. District Judge for New Jersey, and a member of the New Jersey State Society of the Cincinnati, said:

"I heartily approve of the arrangements made, and deeply regret that the state of my health will prevent me from taking part in the proceedings."

Mr. William Lloyd, of Freehold, N. J., an hereditary member in the New Jersey State Society since 4th July, 1837, said:

"I must deny myself the pleasure of being present at the celebration of the Centennial of the inauguration of General Washington.

"It would be imprudent for me to make the experiment, having entered my ninetieth year the 26th March last, and still in active business, and have failed but one time to be present at the annual meeting in fifty years."





Members who became Subscribers to the Commemoration :

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI IN THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

*Mr. EDMUND LINCOLN BAYLIES, A. M., LL. B.	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. WILLIAM HENRY BURBECK.	New London, Conn.
*Hon. SAMUEL CROCKER COBB.	Boston, Mass.
President, Mass. Society of Cincinnati.	
*Mr. DAVID GREENE HASKINS, Jr., A. M., LL. B.	Cambridge, Mass.
*Surgeon EDGAR HOLDEN, M. D.	Newark, N. J.
*Mr. THORNTON K. LOTHROP.	Boston, Mass.
*Mr. ALFRED ETHELBERT SMITH.	Bronxville, N. Y.
*Mr. CHARLES P. TRUMBULL.	Beverly, Mass.
*Mr. ALEXANDER WILLIAMS.	Boston, Mass.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

*Mr. MALCOM HENRY ANGELL.	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mr. WILLIAM BLODGET, A. M.	Boston, Mass.
*Mr. HENRY JACKSON BRIGHTMAN.	New York, N. Y.
*Rev. HENRY BARTON CHAPIN, A. M., Ph. D.	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. HENRY THAYER DROWNE.	New York, N. Y.
*Hon. ASA BIRD GARDINER, A. M., LL. D.	Garden City, N. Y.
Secretary General, Society of Cincinnati.	
*Rev. WILLIAM WALLACE GREENE.	Church Creek, Md.
*Mr. HENRY WATERMAN HOLDEN, A. M.	Huntington, N. Y.
*Mr. HENRY HUTCHINSON HOLLISTER.	New York, N. Y.
*Right Rev. WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L.	Davenport, Iowa.
Mr. THOMAS ARNOLD PEIRCE.	East Greenwich, R. I.
*Mr. SYLVANUS ALBERT REED, A. M., Ph. D.	New York, N. Y.
*Hon. JAMES M. VARNUM, A. M., LL. B.	New York, N. Y.
*Surgeon WILLIAM ARGYLE WATSON, M. D.	New York, N. Y.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

IN THE

STATE OF NEW YORK.

*Mr. WILLIAM ADDOMS	Brooklyn, N. Y.
*Mr. ROBERT PERCY ALDEN, A. B.	Cornwall, Pa.
*Mr. THOMAS MACKANESS LUDLOW CHRYSTIE, M. D.	New York, N. Y.
Mr. ALEXANDER JAMES CLINTON	New York, N. Y.
Hon. JOHN COCHRANE, A. M.	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. JOHN CROPPER, A. M., LL. B.	Washington, D. C.
Mr. THOMAS DE WITT CUYLER	Philadelphia, Pa.
Hon. HAMILTON FISH, A. M., LL. D.	New York, N. Y.
President General, Society of Cincinnati.	
*Mr. WILLIAM OGDEN GILES	Kingsbridge, N. Y.
Hon. ALEXANDER HAMILTON	Irvington, N. Y.
Hon. WICKHAM HOFFMAN, A. B.	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. DIXON GEDNEY HUGHES	Jersey City, N. J.
*Mr. FREDERICK JABEZ HUNTINGTON	Norwich, Conn.
Mr. JOHN DE COURCY IRELAND	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. CHARLES SCOTT MCKNIGHT	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
*Captain ARTHUR MORRIS, U. S. Army	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. TALBOT OLYPHANT	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. JOHN ALEXANDER RUTHERFORD	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. EDWARD WRIGHT TAPP	Brooklyn, N. Y.
*Mr. HERBERT GRAY TORREY, A. B.	Sterling, N. J.
*Mr. JAMES STEVENSON VAN CORTLANDT	Croton Landing, N. Y.
*Mr. CHARLES HENRY WARD, A. M.	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. WILLIAM GREENE WARD, A. B.	New York, N. Y.
*Brev. Major-Gen. ALEXANDER STEWART WEBB, LL. D.	New York, N. Y.
*Mr. ROBERT STEWART WEBB	New York, N. Y.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

IN THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

*Mr. WILLIAM WILMOT BALLARD	Elmira, N. Y.
*Mr. WILLIAM PANCOAST BARBER	Elizabeth, N. J.
Mr. ROBERT WALLACE BURNET	Cincinnati, O.
*Mr. HERMAN BURGIN, A. M., M. D.	Germantown, Pa.
Assistant Treasurer General, Society of Cincinnati.	
Hon. JOHN LAMBERT CADWALADER, A. M., LL. B.	New York, N. Y.
Mr. EDWARD NICOLL DICKERSON, LL. D.	New York, N. Y.
*Major WILLIAM MILLER ESTÉ, A. M.	New York, N. Y.
*Hon. JOHN FITCH, A. M.	New York, N. Y.
Hon. ROBERT STOCKTON GREEN, A. M., LL. D.	Elizabeth, N. J.
Governor of New Jersey.	
Brev. Brig.-Gen. EDWARD BURD GRUBB	Edgewater, N. J.
*Mr. PAUL AUGUSTINE HENDRY	Philadelphia, Pa.
*Mr. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT HOWELL	Philadelphia, Pa.
*Mr. WESSEL TEN BROECK STOUT IMLAY	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mr. FREDERICK WOLCOTT JACKSON	Newark, N. J.
*Mr. THOMAS TALMADGE KINNEY, M. D.	Newark, N. J.
*Mr. GEORGE TIBBITS LANE	Troy, N. Y.
*Mr. FLAVEL MCGEE	Jersey City, N. J.

- *Mr. JAMES MORTIMER MONTGOMERY New York, N. Y.
- *Mr. WILLIAM CASE OSMUN..... Finderne, N. J.
- *Hon. CHARLES SMITH SCOTT..... New Brunswick, N. J.
- *Rev. SAMUEL MOORE SHUTE, D. D Washington, D. C.
- Hon. CLIFFORD STANLEY SIMS Mount Holly, N. J.
President, New Jersey Society of Cincinnati.
- *Mr. WILLIAM CHETWOOD SPENCER..... Elizabeth, N. J.
- *Adjt.-Gen. WILLIAM SCUDDER STRYKER, A. M..... Trenton, N. J.
- *Mr. WILLIAM WINANS THOMAS Elizabeth, N. J.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

IN THE

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

- *Mr. CHARLES BEATTY ALEXANDER, A.M., LL. B..... New York, N. Y.
- Mr. CHARLES E. CADWALADER, M. D..... Philadelphia, Pa.
- *Mr. WILLIAM MACPHERSON HORNER Philadelphia, Pa.
- *Mr. LEWIS BUSH JACKSON..... Philadelphia, Pa.
- *Hon. WILLIAM WAYNE..... Paoli, Pa.
President, Pennsylvania Society of Cincinnati.
- *Major GRANT WEIDMAN..... Lebanon, Pa.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

IN THE

STATE OF MARYLAND.

- *Prof. EDWARD GRAHAM DAVES..... Baltimore, Md.
- Mr. HENRY RIEMAN DUVAL Islip, N. Y.
- *Mr. JOHN STERETT GITTINGS..... Baltimore, Md.
- Mr. RICHARD MEREDITH MCSHERRY Baltimore, Md.
- *Mr. CHARLES MANIGAULT MORRIS..... Baltimore, Md.
- *Captain DANIEL MORGAN TAYLOR, U. S. Army Washington, D. C.
- *Commander HENRY CLAY TAYLOR, U. S. Navy..... Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
- *Mr. OSWALD TILGHMAN..... Easton, Talbot Co., Md.
- *Hon. WILLIAM BENNING WEBB..... Washington, D. C.
President, Commissioners District of Columbia.

SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI

IN THE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

- Rev. CHARLES COTESWORTH PINCKNEY, S. T. D..... Charleston, S. C.
President, South Carolina Society of Cincinnati.
- Mr. THOMAS PINCKNEY..... Richmond, Va.
- *Hon. JAMES SIMONS, A. M. Charleston, S. C.
Speaker of South Carolina House of Representatives.
- *Mr. STEPHEN CALHOUN SMITH New York, N. Y.
- *Mr. FELIX WARLEY New York, N. Y.

* Present at the Commemorative Banquet.



- Mr. WILLIAM ADDOMS, of the New York Society, died in Brooklyn, N. Y., January 12th, 1890, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.
- Mr. EDWARD NICOLL DICKERSON, LL. D., of the New Jersey Society, died in Far Rockaway, Long Island, N. Y., December 12, 1889, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.
- Hon. JOHN THOMPSON NIXON, LL. D., of the New Jersey Society, died in Stockbridge, Mass., September 28, 1889, in the seventieth year of his age.



The
Commemorative Banquet
of
The Cincinnati
at the
Lawyers' Club,

April 27, 1889.



THE COMMEMORATIVE BANQUET was held in the rooms of the Lawyers' Club, in the Equitable Insurance Building, in the city of New York, on the evening of April 27, 1889.

The members assembled in the Reception-Room of the club, with the following named invited guests:—

Brevet Major-General the Hon. RUTHERFORD BIRCHARD HAYES, LL.D., Ex-President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

Hon. FREDERICK SAMUEL TALLMADGE, President of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution.

Mr. CLARENCE WINTHROP BOWEN, Ph.D., Secretary of the General Committee of the Centennial Celebration.

In the unavoidable absence, on account of illness, of the Hon. Hamilton Fish, LL.D., President General and President of the General Committee of the Centennial Celebration, the Hon. SAMUEL CROCKER COBB, President of the Massachusetts State Society of the Cincinnati, by invitation of the Executive Committee, acted as Chairman; and a telegram of affectionate greeting was sent, by desire of the members present, to their venerable and honored President General expressive of their regret that he could not be with them.

At the hour named, the members and guests proceeded to the large dining hall of the club, where grace was said by

the Rev. Dr. SAMUEL M. SHUTE, one of the Chaplains General of the Cincinnati.

The table and the hall were profusely and tastefully decorated with flowers.

The *ménu* and toast list were as follows:—

Ménu.

Little Neck Clams.

POTAGES.

Consommé Washington.

Bisque d'Ecrevisses.

RELEVÉS.

Saumon Sauce Riche.

Filet de bœuf Rochambeau.

ENTRÉES.

Timbales Lafayette.

Côtelettes d'agneau Vioménil.

LÉGUMES.

Pommes de terre Duchesse.

Pois français.

Haricots Verts maître d'hotel.

Asperges.

Sauce Hollandaise.

SORBET CINCINNATI.

RÔTI.

Bécassines sur Canapé.

Salade de laitue.

Bombe Hamilton.

Petits fours, fruits, Pieces montés.

Café.

Toasts.

1. The United States of America.
Pennsylvania State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1785.
2. The Memory of His Excellency General WASHINGTON, our first President General.
New York State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1802.
3. The Constitution of the United States of America—may it be perpetual.
Maryland State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1798.
4. The Memory of Major-General NATHANAEAL GREENE and all who have fallen in defence of America.
President General WASHINGTON's Toast in the South Carolina State Society of Cincinnati, 4th May, 1791.
5. The 17th October, 1777, Saratoga, and 19th October, 1781, Yorktown.
Rhode Island State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1788.
6. All our Brethren who assisted either in the cabinet or field in the great work of Independence.
New York State Society of Cincinnati, 23d February, 1791.

7. Our ancient and brave Ally, the Nation of France.
Massachusetts State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1796.
8. The Battles of Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth and Springfield, attested the
valor of the Continental Line.
New Jersey State Society of Cincinnati, 5th July, 1784.
9. The Army and Navy of the United States.
Rhode Island State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1798.
10. The Tammany Society.
New York State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1793.
11. The President General and the Members of the Cincinnati throughout the
World.
Massachusetts State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1787.
12. The Original Society of the Cincinnati—the forlorn hope in establishing the
independence of the United States of America.
By their example may their successors labor to preserve and perpetuate
the liberties that their patriotism acquired.
Toast of Brevet Brigadier-General HENRY BURBECK, of the Continental Army of the American
Revolution, in the Massachusetts State Society of Cincinnati, 4th July, 1848.
13. Perpetual Peace and Happiness to the United States of America.
General WASHINGTON's Toast to the Continental Officers of the American Revolution,
19th April, 1783.

The Chairman, Hon. SAMUEL CROCKER COBB, when the cloth had been removed, said :

Brothers of the Cincinnati, and Fellow Citizens: As the representative for the time being of the committee under whose auspices this reunion has been arranged, I have the honor and the privilege to extend to you, each one and all, a cordial and fraternal welcome to the pleasures of this occasion.

As successors of the brave and patriotic men who formed this brotherhood, this meeting is both timely and appropriate; for it is not too much to say—I am sure the historical records will bear me out in saying—that the founders of this organization were the foremost actors in the various movements which culminated in that “more perfect union of the States,” secured by the Federal Constitution which went into operation a hundred years ago.

Very happily, therefore, this centennial anniversary furnishes the opportunity for a renewal and strengthening of our vows of allegiance to the principles and purposes upon which this Institution was founded, so that its beneficent work may be perpetuated, and its members made worthy of a glorious heritage.

Most sincerely do I unite with you in regretting the absence of the honorable the President General of this Society, whose presence here to-night would have added much to the interest of this occasion.

We are greatly disappointed, too, in not having with us, the honorable the Vice-President General, who has served with distinction during the past four years as the official representative of the United States to our ancient ally, the nation which gave us Lafayette, Rochambeau, De Grasse, D'Estaing, and their compatriots.

Six years ago the Society of the Cincinnati celebrated its centennial birthday and drank its annual toast to the "Memory of Washington," its first President General. To-day its representatives have assembled in this metropolis to unite in the ceremonies attending the centennial celebration of his inauguration as the First President of the United States.

Animated and inspired by the many precious associations which cluster around the memory of the immortal Washington, let us pray to God that the celebration which is about to be commemorated may speak to us afresh of the noble virtues and patriotic fidelity of him, whose example it will be the glory and salvation of our country to imitate.

But, gentlemen, it is not my purpose to detain you with any extended remarks. We are honored by the presence of several distinguished gentlemen to whose words I shall now invite your attention.

It is now my privilege to announce the first regular toast, and to call upon the Hon. Rutherford B. Hayes, ex-President of the United States, to respond.

The band having played "Hail Columbia," General Hayes rose to respond and was received with cheers.

He spoke as follows:



First Toast.



"THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."



Responded to by

Hon. Rutherford B. Hayes, LL. D.,

Ex-President of the United States.



Mr. President and Gentlemen: The same thoughtful courtesy which has given me the opportunity to enjoy with you this delightful occasion would, it is likely, excuse me if I should attempt, without careful preparation, to discuss the large and attractive sentiment which has been read. But I could not excuse myself if I were to make such a return for your kindness.

When informed this afternoon that it was expected that I would respond to this important toast, it occurred to me that it would be speech enough, under the circumstances, to ask a single question, and to give to it a categorical reply.

Before doing this, I wish to thank the Society of the Cincinnati for the privilege of meeting this distinguished company—the successors and descendants of the immortal band of patriots who stood shoulder to shoulder with Washington and Knox and Hamilton, with Lafayette and Steuben and

Wayne, in the long, hard contest for Independence. Your Society was formed when the officers of the Continental army were about to part, perhaps for ever, from each other, and from their beloved and revered commander. It was instituted to be a memorial of that seven years' conflict, and to perpetuate the friendships formed in that "divine and stainless war." What noble and inspiring recollections and associations cling in adamant around the names and deeds of those great years. They were indeed our country's heroic age!

The question I wish to ask and to answer is: What are the fruits of the achievements of those days? What was gained by the War of Independence? The answer—the all-sufficient answer—is: Those days gave to us, to the world, to the future of all mankind—the United States of America!





Second Toast.

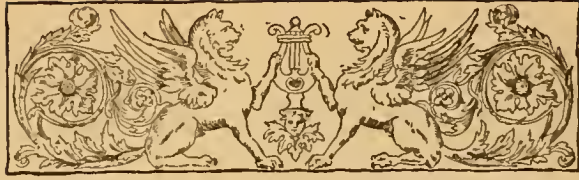


“THE MEMORY OF HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL WASHINGTON, OUR FIRST
PRESIDENT GENERAL.”



This toast, in accordance with the custom of eighty-nine years, was acknowledged standing and in silence.





Third Toast.



“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—MAY IT BE
PERPETUAL.”



Responded to by

Hon. Asa Bird Gardiner, LL. D.,
Secretary General of the Cincinnati.



Mr. Chairman: Although the cares and duties incident to this particular commemoration, and to those of a later day in this centennial celebration, have left no time for preparation for the toast to which I have the honor to respond, nevertheless no student of American History present here this evening, and surrounded by those whose names recall the illustrious services of their ancestors to our country, could, if called upon, fail to say something suitable to the occasion.

I trust I may be pardoned for digressing a little to become personal, and to allude to some of those I see near me at this board, whose names bring vividly before me events connected with the “times that tried men’s souls.”

On my right is our Chaplain¹ for the evening, the grand-nephew, representative and namesake of Brevet Captain Sam-

¹ The Rev. Samuel Moore Shute, D.D., Prof. of Eng. Lang. and Lit., Columbian University.

uel Moore Shute of the 2d Regiment New Jersey Continental Infantry of the Revolution, in that Jersey Brigade whose services were conspicuous for gallantry in all the general actions in which the main Continental Army fought.

You,¹ sir, come next in line, and recall, in the services of your grandfather, Lieutenant-Colonel David Cobb, Aide-de-Camp to Washington, those great events which terminated in that memorable resignation by the Commander-in-Chief of his commission at Annapolis on December 23d, 1783.

Our honored guest² on your right, recalls the services of the New York Militia in the Revolution, in which his grandfather, Rutherford Hayes, served as an Ensign. The Right Rev. Bishop of Iowa,³ second on your right, reminds me that his grandfather served as a lieutenant at the siege of Boston, and his great-grandfather and namesake, Captain William Stevens, 2d Regiment Continental Corps of Artillery, displayed at the siege of Yorktown, such ability in the precision of fire of his battery as to evoke the admiration of the French officers.

Our honored guest,⁴ next on the right, the grandson of Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Tallmadge, 2d Regiment Continental Light Dragoons, recalls the gallant services of his grandfather as commanding officer at the capture of Fort George—services which received the thanks of Congress and Washington.

The later important services of Major Tallmadge under the direct personal orders of the Commander-in-Chief in the "Neutral Ground" of Westchester County, was the occasion of his being made the prototype of the historic character "Major Dunwoodie" in J. Fenimore Cooper's novel of the "Spy."

At the right of the President of the Sons of the Revolution sits one of our Maryland members,⁵ wearing the very eagle of our order presented to his grandfather by the immortal Washington, whose Aide-de-Camp he was to the close of the Revolution.

¹ Hon. Samuel Crocker Cobb.

² Hon. Rutherford B. Hayes, LL.D.

³ The Right Rev. William Stevens Perry, D.D., LL. D., D.C.L.

⁴ Hon. Frederick Samuel Tallmadge.

⁵ Mr. Oswald Tilghman.

His next neighbor,¹ the President of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, also of the Maryland Cincinnati, recalls the fact that his grandfather, Captain John Webb, of the Second Regiment Continental Light Dragoons, was Aide-de-Camp to Major-General Robert Howe, and a most popular officer.

I might continue, sir, these illustrations to all here present, but before I pass to the consideration of the toast, I cannot but allude to the member² to the right of the President of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia, great-grandson and namesake of Brigadier-General Daniel Morgan, whose services at the assault on Quebec, and at the battles of Stillwater and Saratoga, and as Commanding General in the great victory of the "Cowpens," are still gratefully remembered by the American people.

Nor can I fail to allude to my dear friend³ here on my left, the President of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania, grandson of that gallant and intrepid soldier, Brigadier and Brevet Major-General Anthony Wayne, who became eventually General-in-Chief of the United States Army, and whose brilliant services in every action in which he was engaged, including the storming of Stony Point in 1779 and the action of Jamestown Ford in 1781, caused the soldiers to give him the affectionate soubriquet of "Mad Anthony," and has ever made his name a favorite one with students of American history.

Facing me are two members, one⁴ whose grandfather, Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General Samuel Blachley Webb, served as an Aide-de-Camp to Washington at Boston, and later as Colonel of the Third Regiment Connecticut Continental Infantry to the peace of 1783; and the other,⁵ whose grandfather, Captain and Brevet Major John Carroway Smith, First Regiment South Carolina Continental Infantry, served under Major-General Benjamin Lincoln in the bloody trenches of Savannah, and later at the capitulation of Charleston, S. C.

¹ Hon. William Benning Webb.

² Captain Daniel Morgan Taylor, Ordnance Department United States Army.

³ Hon. William Wayne.

⁴ Brevet Major-General Alexander Stewart Webb, LL. D., late United States Army, President of the College of the City of New York.

⁵ Mr. Stephen Calhoun Smith.

The sentiments, sir, of the original Cincinnati were fully expressed, as to the Constitution of the United States, in the toast to which I will now try to respond.

No class of citizens were as keenly sensible of the imbecility and inefficiency of the Articles of Confederation, under which the war of the Revolution closed, as were the Continental officers.

The State Governments had sufficient executive powers to enable them to levy taxes and properly support and pay their functionaries.

The United States Government had practically but two classes of officials, viz.: the extremely limited number of civil functionaries at the Capitol in Philadelphia and the Continental Army, on which the hopes of the nation depended for independence.

The Continental Navy had long since practically disappeared. The citizen, at home, having his local rights reasonably protected by his State, and the theatre of war removed to a distance, saw but dimly, if at all, the fatally defective character of the Articles of Confederation.

The Continental officers, however, had starved at Valley Forge, in the Highlands of the Hudson, in the Northern Department, and in the Jerseys, and their men had often been days together without proper subsistence and almost always without suitable clothing or camp and garrison equipage.

They had seen the solemn and repeated promises of Congress as to pay, clothing, allowances and pensions broken—all because of the absolute inability of Congress to enforce by taxation its requirements.

There being no sanctions to the Congressional ordinances, the Continental officers saw those ordinances treated with neglect and indifference, and, as a consequence, they and their men, towards the end of the war, were left without pay for as long as two years.

But the fire of patriotism burned strongly in the hearts of the original Cincinnati, and nearly all of them were obliged to sacrifice their estates and property—and become beggared—in order to support themselves and families, and to continue in

service and prevent the disbandment of the army before peace should be assured.

Therefore—they were intensely in earnest as to the necessity of a National Government for national purposes, such as they had witnessed in 1775-76, and they were of one mind that a good Constitution was a national necessity.

Accordingly their favorite toasts indicative of their sentiments were all in this direction.

Washington, Lafayette, Knox, and other Cincinnati all wrote urging the necessity of these changes.

When the army was about to lay down arms, assumed for public defence, and disband, the officers, in their cantonments on the Hudson, formed the Society of the Cincinnati.

The only political principle incorporated in their beloved "Institution" of 1783 was "an unalterable determination to promote and cherish between the respective States that *union and national honor* so essentially necessary to their happiness and the future dignity of the American Empire."

Each State Society was required to write annually, or oftener if necessary, a circular letter to the other State Societies noting whatever they might think worthy of observation respecting the *general union of the States*.

Therefore it is not to be wondered at, that in all movements leading up to the adoption and ratification of the United States Constitution the Cincinnati were potentially conspicuous.

Time will not permit me to give details.

Nearly all the Governors or Presidents of States, as well as the President of the Continental Congress, were, in 1787, members of our Order.

Nearly half of the members of the Committee of the Continental Congress which recommended the calling of a Constitutional Convention belonged to the Order of the Cincinnati, as did nearly half of the Convention itself, including the President and Secretary and nearly half of those who signed the engrossed copy of the Constitution when it was adopted.

It was a member of the Order who moved in the Continental Congress that the Constitution as adopted by the Con-

vention, and presented for consideration, be submitted to the several States for ratification, and after ratification had taken place in the necessary number of States, it was a member who, in his place in the Continental Congress, moved the necessary resolution for putting into effect the new Government under the Constitution.

When it had been ratified by a sufficient number of States, not only State Societies of the Cincinnati, but the General Society at its next triennial meeting, expressed to their President General their extreme satisfaction, and declared that a good Constitution was the object for which they had risked their lives and experienced unparalleled difficulties.

1 With the adoption of the Constitution, the political efforts of the Cincinnati, as such, came to an end. Political parties in the country have since risen and fallen, and political associations have existed for longer or shorter periods, but the Society of the Cincinnati, placed on a higher plane than that of mere local politics, and secure in the affection and respect of those who can appreciate the sacrifices and efforts of its founders and the objects of their "Institution," has continued and still continues as the symbol of the generous impulses and self-sacrificing patriotism which gave to the American people, in the language of President General Washington, "national existence, prosperity, felicity and safety."

From this brief recapitulation of what the Society of the Cincinnati did towards the framing and adoption of the Constitution of the United States, it can with propriety be urged that it is peculiarly entitled to celebrate this centennial, and indeed it may be said that no other organization in the country can prefer the same claims in this behalf.

That the Constitution may be perpetual was the hope and desire of our Revolutionary ancestors and is our own.

Thanking you, Mr. Chairman and dear Brethren, for the particular attention with which you have listened to my remarks, I beg to close in the poetic language of a patriotic lady, uttered in the memorable year, 1779, when John Paul Jones, in the "Bon Homme Richard," taught the British Navy that Britannia could not always rule the waves, and Anthony Wayne,

at "Stoney Point," showed that the British bayonet was the heritage of the American Continental:

God save our States!
Make us victorious,
Happy and glorious,
God save our States!





Fourth Toast.



“THE MEMORY OF MAJOR-GENERAL NATHANAEL GREENE, AND ALL WHO HAVE
FALLEN IN DEFENCE OF AMERICA.”



Responded to by

Hon. James Simons,

Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I thank you sincerely for the very kind and gracious reception accorded to me. I have just arrived in the city and hastened to attend this assembly. I regret that I do not find here the venerable and reverend President of the South Carolina State branch of the Cincinnati, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, who I expected would have responded to the sentiment which has just been announced. No man could have done so more appropriately, bearing as he does an illustrious name, identified with the great struggle which gave this great country life—the grandson of Major-General Thomas Pinckney and the grandnephew of Major-General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, both distinguished soldiers of the Revolution, both Presidents General of the Order of the Cincinnati.

The Vice-President of the Order in my State, I am here as a descendant of one who was a young man in the days of the Revolution, who, whilst he attained no higher rank than that

of a field officer, had the privilege of shedding his blood in the great cause of liberty, striving, as did a multitude of others, the vast majority of whom are unknown to fame, to fulfil the high duty of patriotism.

Standing here in this great—this wonderful city—the common pride of all Americans—and viewing our country as it is to-day—the great republic of the world—in reverence and gratitude we contemplate the memory of those who have transmitted this heritage, not only to their posterity but to mankind; whose enlightenment and devotion, whose blood and sacrifices have made possible what we enjoy to-day.

Dear to us is the name of Greene—the man whose constancy and wisdom, fidelity and self-control, whose never flinching heroism kept alive the fire of Liberty throughout the gloom of the Southern campaign. It is unnecessary to rehearse this great chapter in his and his country's history. Its details are familiar to all who feel any pride in the glory of the country, and I am sure need not be recounted in this presence.

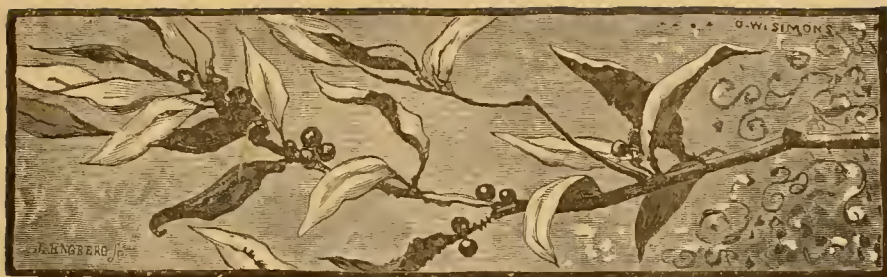
Greene was a general—a great general—but he was greater still: he was a patriot and the leader of patriots. Justly did he earn his great fame—deservedly is his name identified with the independence of the nation.

He and the other renowned men of that day did their part. So did their comrades and their followers, who, whilst their services may not have been as brilliant or their renown as great, did as much as the greatest—they did their duty.

Let us, then, on this grand memorial occasion, with gratitude in our hearts, offer our reverent and affectionate tributes to the memory of all, humble or exalted, who gave their lives to the great cause.

What juster measure of the gratitude we owe the men of the Revolution than the simple exclamation, uttered in the nineteenth century, "I am an American citizen!"





Fifth Toast.



“THE 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1777, AT SARATOGA, AND THE 19TH OF OCTOBER,
1781, AT YORKTOWN.”



Responded to by the

“**Rt. Rev. William Stevens Perry, D.D. (Oron.), LL.D., D.C.L.,**
Bishop of Iowa.”



Mr. Chairman and Brethren of the Cincinnati: It is but fitting that on an occasion and in a presence such as this, our thoughts should revert to our ancestors in whose right we are here to-night. My thoughts, Mr. President and Brethren, were thus turned when the allotment of this toast was made but a moment since; and I confess that it was with a feeling of envy that I recalled the fact that Lieutenant Abel Perry of Massachusetts, member of the Provincial Assembly, of the Committee of Safety, officer of the 31st Continental Regiment of Foot, and out at Concord, Lexington, Bunker Hill and the siege of Boston, was, in the phrase of the day, a *minute* man—always ready for the fray; always prepared to do and dare at duty’s call. If there were all we think there is in heredity, I ought to be a minute man to-

night, ready and glad to respond to the toast so kindly assigned to me by your authoritative command. Would that I were ready and able to respond to words so full of meaning—so suggestive to a patriotic heart! At Saratoga, on the 17th of October, 1777, the Convention was signed making the army of Lieutenant-General John Burgoyne prisoners of war. At the tune of “Yankee Doodle” the American soldiery marched into the British lines while the English marched out, and out of sight of their generous victors, laid down their arms. At Yorktown, on another October day but three years later, another British general, Lieutenant-General Earl Cornwallis, yielded his sword, another British army laid down its arms, each surrendering to

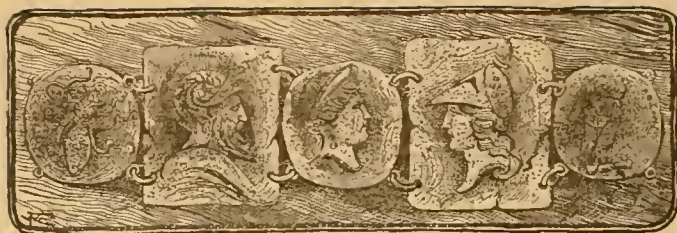
“That illustrious man,
That unblemished gentleman,”

the General of the Army of the Revolution, our first President General. It was in consequence of the success at Saratoga, a victory won by the bravery of the men of the North, that Washington gained at the distant South the final triumph. At Saratoga, Yorktown was made possible, and though there were days of doubt and defeat intervening—though Valley Forge had its tale to tell of privations, sufferings, discontent and dark forebodings—between these two successes we may well believe that but for the victory of October 17th, 1777, the close of the strife on the 19th of October, 1781, would not have been assured. Thus mingle the North and the South in toil and triumph in the same great cause. Thus from the victory at the North “the little candle throws its light afar,” and the Old Dominion is illumined by its gleaming and made more glorious in its last, its crowning triumph. Thus may it ever be, the North and the South united in the upholding of the republic formed by the sacrifices and successes of each. One may not claim the victory without the other. To each its own; to both united, the fullest, most lasting praise!

The “minute” man, Mr. Chairman and Brethren, must not exceed the limit suggested by his very name. My minute for to-night is passed. I will not keep you longer. To-morrow I

am to speak at length in that historic church, which, recalling as it does our early days and standing as it does amidst our noble dead, seems fittingly our chapel, our special shrine, as Saint George's, Windsor, is the sanctuary of England's and the world's greatest order of knighthood. And mindful of the morrow and its sacred duty, I will close to-night with but a word:—Saratoga and Yorktown! God hath joined them together on the page of history, and in the remembrance of each patriotic heart may their union never be broken. May the welding together of North and South, East and West, in our great and glorious union be perpetual. Let no man put asunder these whom God hath joined!





Sixth Toast.



“ALL OUR BRETHREN WHO ASSISTED EITHER IN THE CABINET OR FIELD IN THE
GREAT WORK OF INDEPENDENCE.”



Responded to by

Hon. Frederick Samuel Tallmadge,

President of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution.



Mr. Chairman: On behalf of the “Sons of the Revolution,” whom I have the honor to represent, I tender to you my sincere thanks for this opportunity of meeting you. In this Society of the Cincinnati I have always felt a deep interest. Indeed, my regard for it is something intense. But towards the Society of the Sons of the Revolution I feel the warmth of a first love. Judge, then, of the gratification I experience in the blending of these sentiments this evening, when you meet to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the Inauguration of “George Washington” as first President of the United States, and the first President General of your Society. That gratification has been increased by listening to the frequent reference to our ancestors by the speakers who have preceded me. If that child be wise who knows his own father, how much wiser is he, who, in

these centennial times, knows his own grandfather. Early traditions have been discussed, and the family Bible referred to and opened by some people, perhaps for the first time, in a vain search for the records of virtues they are supposed to have inherited and are staggering under at the present time. Indeed, had Sir Walter Scott survived until the present moment, what fresh illustrations he would have found for his "Tales of a Grandfather."

But, Mr. Chairman, while thanking you for the enjoyment of this meeting, let us not forget the admirable tact of your Committee in selecting this Hall of the "Lawyers' Club" for the dinner to-night. Here the President of the United States will receive the welcome of the City of New York day after to-morrow, and I am sure the legal atmosphere of calfskin, parchment and foolscap will be lost in the odor of sanctity and patriotism infused into this room by this meeting.

"Inter arma leges silent."

Thus the President will be prepared for the honors that await him. But, Sir, there are other reasons why I thank you for the privilege of being here and responding to the sentiment: *All our brethren who assisted either in the Cabinet or field in the great work of Independence.* I am glad of the opportunity of presenting the claims of "The Society of the Sons of the Revolution," whose Constitution, following almost the exact words of the toast, admits to membership: *Any person who is descended from an ancestor, who either as a military or naval officer, soldier or sailor, assisted in establishing American Independence.* The Sons have come home to-night to dine with their Sires, and I ask a cordial welcome for them. They are here to celebrate the Centennial, and are entitled to the fatted calf, although they may not be prodigal. You, gentlemen, have inherited a proud record of the past. We believe we have a proud future before us, and as I listen with so much pride and pleasure to the tribute of praise you pay to your ancestors, I say to myself, you, their descendants, are the right kind of material to make good Sons of the Revolution out of, and in that way aid us

in transmitting to posterity your and our patriotic inheritance undimmed by time and untarnished by abuse. Help us to look forward as well as backward, and hold a Centennial feast every year. Shall we wait another hundred years before we shall be patriotic? You owe a debt to your ancestors. We propose to pay it. Not by eating and drinking, and resolving that "we are the righteous and shall inherit the land," but by publications, public discussions, the erection of monuments to the memory of patriots of '76, and the celebration of anniversaries commemorative of the battles of the Revolution, and thus strive

"To make mankind in conscious virtue bold,
Live o'er each scene and be what they behold."

For, after all, patriotism, or love of your country, is to a certain extent a matter of education. It may slumber and die, unless kept alive by appeals to the head and heart as pictures cultivate and discipline the eye.

Now, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Cincinnati Society, may we not have your aid, your influence and your co-operation in carrying on this good work? Let us be the connecting link between the past and the future in perpetuating forever the glorious principles of American liberty. What we have inherited help us to teach posterity how to enjoy. If our societies can and will unite in such influences and aims, I am sure I can call upon my friend on my left, Bishop Perry, to bless our Union. "Whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."





Seventh Toast.



“OUR ANCIENT AND BRAVE ALLY, THE NATION OF FRANCE.”



Responded to by Hon. James M. Varnum.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Society: Before responding to this sentiment you will permit me on behalf of the Hon. Hamilton Fish, the President General of the Society of the Cincinnati for more than a third of a century, and President of the New York Society, to present to you his sincere regrets that physical infirmities prevent him from being present this evening, and uniting with you in the celebration of this great anniversary. Mr. Alexander Hamilton,¹ Vice-President of the New York Society, is also unable, by reason of ill health, from coming to New York this evening, but sends through me his best wishes for the success of our meeting.

* * * * *

“Our ancient and brave ally, the Nation of France”—a toast offered in 1796 at the meeting of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati.

We are carried back by this sentiment more than a hundred and ten years, to the darkest days of the American Revolution, when all seemed dreary, hopeless, and uncertain, back to the

¹ Hon. ALEXANDER HAMILTON, of the New York Society of Cincinnati, died at Tarrytown, N. Y., 30th December, 1889, in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

days of Valley Forge, where a heroic and gallant army, half fed, half clothed, and well-nigh disheartened, were looking in vain for some hope or ray of encouragement to show that their labor might possibly bear fruit, and that their long struggle against oppression might be crowned with success.

The clouds gathered closer and darker about them, and even the heart of Washington was oppressed with dismal forebodings as to the result of the long continued struggle against fearful odds.

But suddenly the clouds seemed to be breaking, and as they parted and floated swiftly by, their glorious silver lining became revealed to the almost disheartened patriots, filling their hearts with encouragement and with hope for the future.

For in May, 1778, there came to the camp at Valley Forge the news of the Treaty of Lyons, and that the great and powerful nation of France had acknowledged the independence of the American Colonies, and had resolved to aid them with all its resources in securing and making permanent that independence.

History tells us what a great day that was at Valley Forge when the news was received, and what a grand celebration of the event took place in the camp under the orders of General Washington.

From across the broad ocean, from a nation old in years, rich in resources, influential in the affairs of the world, there had come words of encouragement and hope to the poor struggling colonists in America. France had spoken, and, through Louis XVI., had said: "Be brave-hearted, be courageous, be encouraged. The great nation of France will stand by those struggling against oppression on the American continent." And it was not only by words that the help was given, for soon across the Atlantic came great ships of the line and transports laden with ammunition and supplies and gold, and filled with troops, officered by the ablest and bravest officers that all France could furnish, to aid us in our struggle for independence.

The members of this Society are, as a rule, careful students of American history, and there is surely no need for me to

refer in detail to those subsequent historical events with which you are all so familiar.

I do not say that without the assistance and aid of France there would not have been an American Republic—that victory might not in the end have perched upon the banners of Washington, even had he not received this assistance from the ally across the great sea. But I think you will all agree with me that the end came sooner, that the success was greater, and that perhaps even success was wrenched from defeat by the timely action and active and efficient support of our great ally, the Nation of France.

It is but natural, then, that we, descendants of Revolutionary sires, should have a deep regard for France. She may be Empire, Kingdom, or Republic, it is all the same to us; we look back an hundred years through our grandfathers' spectacles and see only, and seeing we love, "Our ancient and brave ally, the Nation of France."

We remember Louis XVI., to whom we all owe so much, and Rochambeau, D'Estaing, De Grasse, De Chastellux, Noailles, De Lauzun, St. Simon, and all that long list of brave soldiers and sailors of France who did so much to insure our country's independence.

And kindlier and dearer than all is the memory of one young, brave, and gallant French nobleman, who left rank, wealth, and home, to place his sword at the disposal of Washington, and to risk his life and his honor in behalf of American freedom. If France had done nothing more for us we should still hold her in loving remembrance as the fatherland of the gallant Marquis de Lafayette.

And hence is it, my friends, that the American people, and especially we of the Order of the Cincinnati, hold in kindly and grateful remembrance our ancient and brave ally, the Nation of France, and especially those of that nationality who are the descendants and representatives of the French soldiers and sailors who aided our ancestors in the establishment of our Republic.

Is this interest one-sided, do you ask—have the descendants of the French officers who took part in our Revolution, and

who were members of the Order of the Cincinnati, any active interest in the America of to-day—any pride in the exploits of their ancestors—any knowledge of and interest in this Order, and any desire to claim the right of hereditary membership therein?

These questions are answered in part by the fact set forth in the records of the last triennial meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati in 1887, that a number of French gentlemen entitled to hereditary membership in the Society have formed a provisional organization for the purpose of reviving the French branch of the Society, with the Marquis de Rochambeau as provisional President and the Vicomte de Noailles as Secretary, and have applied for and obtained recognition from the General Society. They are answered in part by applications which have been made by descendants of those French officers of a hundred or more years ago, to be admitted as members of our Order, through some of our State Societies, and to have thus restored to them the heritage of their fathers. And some of us, too, can bear personal testimony to the deep and strong interest which some of these descendants take in our historic Order. Speaking for myself, I can say that it has been my own pleasure and privilege to meet many of them on terms of friendship. I have visited at Havana the Marquis du Quesne, a deputy in the Spanish Cortes, and a descendant of Rear-Admiral the Marquis du Quesne, and have seen with what pride and gratification he produced and wore the Order of the Society of the Cincinnati, which had descended to him from his grandfather. I have visited as an honored guest at the historic Chateau Rochambeau, the home of the great Marshal of France the Comte de Rochambeau, and in the bedchamber occupied by him in his lifetime I have seen the most prominent feature, a portrait of Washington, the first President General of this Society, and side by side with the insignia of the Golden Fleece and other decorations, and in a place of honor, I have seen our own eagle—the Order of the Cincinnati—which had been worn by the great Comte de Rochambeau more than a century ago.

It has been my pleasure to meet that distinguished states-

man and courtly gentleman the Duke and Prince de Broglie, and to be assured by him of his pride at the part taken by his grandfather, the Prince de Broglie, in the achievement of American independence, and of his interest in the Society of the Cincinnati, and his cordial and earnest desire to co-operate in the movement for the re-establishment of the French Society of the Order.

And from time to time, too, there comes to me friendly reminders from Besançon, or from the mountains of the Vosges, that the Comte d'Ollone, as the representative of Vioménil and grandson of a gallant officer of the Auxiliary Army, has an abiding and enduring interest in the welfare of the Society of the Cincinnati.

And so, gentlemen, because of those French heroes of the past, who were the firm friends of our Revolutionary sires, because of their descendants, who now, in friendly remembrance of that past, send kindly greetings to us, because by the action of the French nation in 1778, the independence of our country was assured, I ask you to fill again your glasses, and to drink once again to the toast of "*Our ancient and brave ally, the Nation of France.*"





Eighth Toast.



“THE BATTLES OF TRENTON, PRINCETON, MONMOUTH AND SPRINGFIELD,
ATTESTED THE VALOR OF THE CONTINENTAL LINE.”



Responded to by Hon. John Fitch.¹



Mr. Chairman and Brethren of the Society: Sad and dark were the prospects of the Colonies, on the eve preceding the battles of Trenton and Princeton. The brave Continentals marching through New Jersey's frozen and snow covered fields, turned upon Cornwallis at Trenton and Princeton, stayed the British progress towards Philadelphia, checked the tide of success of the English army, and enabled our Continental Line to go safely into winter quarters. These victories gave the colonists their first hope of success. They showed that the "Continental Line" could successfully contend with England's best soldiers. They cheered the drooping spirits of the Whigs, gained over to the Colonies the hesitating and doubtful, and crushed the hopes of the Tories. Washington's success at Trenton and Princeton gave us the friendship of France and Holland, and made Saratoga possible, and enabled the country to raise an army to meet and cap-

¹ Hon. JOHN FITCH, of the New Jersey Society of Cincinnati, died in the City of New York, September 1, 1839, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

ture Burgoyne. Our great victory at Saratoga gave us the French alliance, and had it not been for the arms and ammunition, and the navy which she sent us and of which we were so sadly in need, we could not have succeeded. Had Washington been defeated at Trenton and Princeton, there would have been no Free and Independent United States, no Centennial, no Society of the Cincinnati. We should not have been here to-night and this land would not now be called the "United States." The Colonies would have been crushed, governed by the bayonet, and England would have taxed us to the limit of endurance. It was the Continental Line that did the fighting; it was Brigadier-General Hugh Mercer's Brigade that made the attack and won the victory at Princeton. The Brigade was composed of the Fourth Connecticut, in these battles commanded by one of my ancestors; the New Hampshire regiment under Stark, who afterwards won at Bennington; and two Massachusetts regiments, one commanded by Colonel Hutchinson, and the other by Colonel Stone. The battles of Trenton and Princeton constituted an epoch in the Revolution, the pivot upon which success depended. They have never yet received due credit for what they effected, and the effect has never as yet been fairly or sufficiently chronicled, nor has it received the attention it deserves. Neither has the bravery of the Continental Line on that occasion been sufficiently applauded or appreciated. It was, and may be called, the first decisive battle of the Revolution, and it certainly was a battle, calling Trenton and Princeton one battle, of which a contrary result—the defeat of Gen. Washington—would have essentially changed the fate of the Colonies, and their subsequent careers would have been entirely varied in the drama of the world. Historians say that among the fifteen decisive battles of the world, Saratoga was one of them. Now, I claim that Trenton and Princeton should have been named as well as or perhaps instead of Saratoga, because had we been defeated at Trenton and Princeton, the Colonies would have been crushed; we could not have raised an army with which to have won Saratoga, and there would have been no United States. If Washington had been defeated at Trenton, Cornwallis would have followed up

his success, received large reinforcements from New York, and followed Washington's army until it was captured or scattered, and that would have closed the scene. Again, the Continentals at Monmouth drove England's best soldiers from the battle-field, forcing them to seek safety under the guns of the British fleet, then anchored in the Lower Bay. Our victories at Saratoga and Monmouth gave us the aid of France with an army and a fleet of more than thirty sail, by the aid of which we captured Cornwallis with his army and the fleet at Yorktown, which ended the Revolution and established our Independence. Thus it was that the bravery of the Continental Line gave us our Independence and enabled Liberty to be proclaimed throughout the land. Thus to the battles fought by the Continentals on New Jersey's blood-stained soil we are indebted for what we are to-day. *God bless France, old New Jersey, and the Continental Line!* This is not all we have to thank them and her for. But for them we should not have been a nation, and there would not have been a Government like ours, "of the people, by the people, and for the people," and the mighty West would have been a howling wilderness, probably not settled beyond the Mississippi River at this time, and the religion of the Saviour, commencing at Jerusalem, following the sun in its westerly course around the world, would not as yet have crossed this continent and found its way as it has nearly done across Asia around to Jerusalem, thus nearly fulfilling the commands of the Saviour to His disciples: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, so I am with you always, even unto the ends of the world." I believe it was the will of God and His design to spread the religion of the Saviour by way of Trenton, Princeton and Monmouth across this continent to Asia, and through Asia to Jerusalem, and that the Continental Line for that purpose took the place of His disciples, and let us all say:

GOD BLESS OLD NEW JERSEY AND THE CONTINENTAL LINE.



At the conclusion of Mr. Fitch's response, the Chairman called upon the Rev. Dr. Samuel Moore Shute to respond to the same toast.

Rev. Samuel Moore Shute, D. D.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Cincinnati: I presume that I but put into words the one common sentiment that throbs in your souls to-night, when I say that this imposing social assemblage, and the interesting exercises connected with it, are a most fitting prelude to the august ceremonies about to be inaugurated in this great metropolis of the nation. The MAN, the SOCIETY, the CONSTITUTION! What more stimulating and ennobling themes could be presented for the consideration of an assemblage, the members of which are the sons of those sires of the heroic age of the Republic, who pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, that they would unfalteringly aid the MAN in his arduous efforts to achieve our independence; who, having nobly redeemed their pledges to secure it, formed the SOCIETY, whose one supreme aim should be to tenderly care for the widows and orphans of those brother officers who laid down their lives on the bloody field of strife, and also to cultivate through the faithful lives of their sons, during all the after generations, an unwavering loyalty to the institutions, the foundations of which they themselves had patiently laid in the expenditure of so much toil and blood; and who, moreover, aided by Divine guidance, put into our incomparable written CONSTITUTION those wise provisions, which, by their careful and conscientious administration, have made us one of the most enlightened, useful, and powerful of the nations. A theme as inspiring as ever poet wove into immortal verse, or painter ever wrought in living colors on canvas.

The MAN, by world-wide consent, the foremost among men throughout all the annals of human history! The SOCIETY, unique in its origin, unsurpassed in the admirable virtues of its founders, and eminent for the honors conferred upon it in lands beyond the sea, as well as in its native home! A CONSTITUTION, so strong, that it has survived the titanic shocks of the most terrific civil war that ever devastated the

fair fields of earth; and so elastic that it adapts itself as readily to a domain stretching from ocean to ocean, as it did to the original narrow Atlantic strip of coast with its thirteen colonies; and as completely meeting the multiplied wants of sixty-five millions of people as it did those of three millions!

In aiding the MAN, in organizing the SOCIETY, in elaborating the CONSTITUTION, New Jersey contributed her share, and with a heartiness, a persistency, and a success, which won the admiration of her sister colonies. Upon her soil some of the most brilliant military movements and achievements of the war were accomplished; and Trenton, Princeton and Monmouth have not only made the soil of New Jersey sacred to her sons, but have rendered perpetually lustrous the military genius of the great Leader of the Revolution.

May this be, pre-eminently, the occasion on which the hallowed memories associated with the great deeds of our fathers shall be strengthened and brightened; and may these memories be the means, not only of prompting us, their sons, to esteem more highly the priceless civil and religious privileges which they secured for us, but also of stimulating us to imitate the virtues which have made their names and deeds immortal in the enduring records of this great Republic.





Ninth Toast.



"THE ARMY AND NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES."



Responded to by

Brevet Major-General Alexander Stewart Webb, LL. D.,

(Late United States Army,)

President of the College of the City of New York.



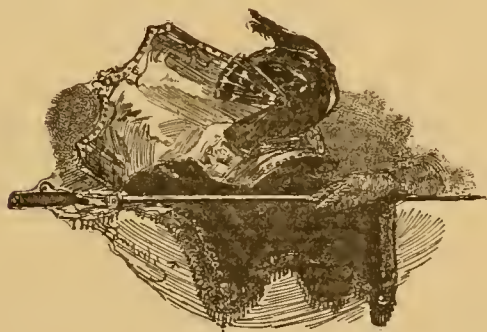
Mr. Chairman and Brethren: It is probably expected that in answer to such a toast it will devolve upon me to speak of the record made by both arms of the service, from the time of Paul Jones and Washington to the days of Farragut and Grant; to express, as is usual, our sympathy for those who rendered hard service, either on stormy ocean or western desert, and to pledge our firm support to these two arms, which are to-day more than ever the pride of the whole nation. But the words spoken here already, the enthusiasm shown by the representatives of all the States of the Union present here to-night, whenever the reunion of the States has been alluded to; the truthful but extraordinary recounting of the services of members of the Society of the Cin-

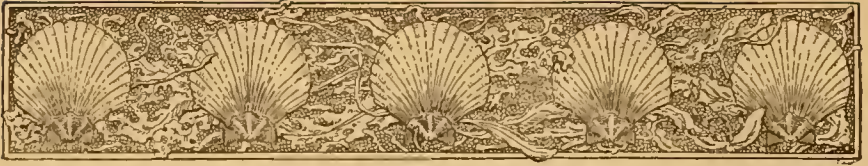
cinnati in drafting the Constitution of our country and in securing its adoption by the legislatures of the several States, have all tended to force me to change entirely the historical character of the response I was about to make, and to call your attention to one view of the services of the army and navy which presents itself to me to-night. As we look upon these two arms of the service, originally composed of representatives of all the States, brought up at two academies under the direction of the United States Government, taught to love and respect but one national flag—in their very hearts forced to believe that in the service they belonged to the whole nation, and not to particular States—we see that there was engendered in them a spirit of patriotism which I believe was never obliterated from their hearts.

Think of it for one moment—what gave Grant his grand spirit of generosity exhibited at Appomattox Court House? What made the officers of the opposing army accept at once the inevitable consequences of their defeat? It was but a return on the part of all to the teaching they had received when young. Anger had passed away in a great measure; respect for our adversaries had taken the place of bitter hostility, and a desire to see once more the whole Union restored was predominant in the hearts of the officers who had been in the regular army. Seeing their leaders bearing themselves in this attitude toward one another, what was the natural effect upon the men of the two opposed armies? It was to produce in the heart of every one of them a feeling in favor of reconstruction—to follow in peace the example of the very men who had been their leaders in war; and while the world looked on and wondered, through the active energy and efforts of these officers of the army and navy, who until 1861 had served together as brothers, the whole Southern section made strenuous efforts to prove that disunion was an impossibility, and a divided country a blot upon the face of the earth.

Now, in speaking of the army and navy, I ask you hereafter to recall that they contain the graduates from the two public institutions selected from all parts of the Union; that each and every officer is a patriot through habit and education; that the more intelligent and better informed from both sections of

the country are the most eager to prove that the old flag never was other than dear to the hearts of all ; that it will ever be floating over a united country ; and that as agents for the preservation of the Union and Liberty, no two bodies of men stand more prominently before the hearts of our people, or are more capable of loyalty to the people, to the government, and to the flag of the country.





Tenth Toast.



"THE TAMMANY SOCIETY."



Responded to by **Mr. Charles Beatty Alexander.**



Mr. Chairman and Brethren: The unavoidable and unintended absence this evening of one of our members, General John Cochrane, a Sachem of Tammany, is, undoubtedly, the reason why you have placed on me the duty of responding to this toast.

In 1793, when this toast was announced at the annual Fourth of July banquet of the New York Society of the Cincinnati,¹ it was much easier adequately to reply to it than now, because the Tammany Society had not then taken on, in the estimation of the community, that political character which she has since sustained.

Although a number of members of the Society of the Cincinnati were among the founders and promoters, in 1789, of the Tammany Society, the popular impression has generally been that it was founded in opposition to our Order and to repress its supposed aristocratic tendencies.

The Society of the Cincinnati had been constituted from among the commissioned officers—the gentlemen—of the Con-

¹ As early as the 22d February, 1791, on the occasion of the celebration of Washington's Birthday by the New York State Society of the Cincinnati and by the Tammany Society, mutual congratulations were exchanged between the two organizations.

tinental Army of the Revolution, and excluded civilians and those who had borne arms against the American cause.

The Tammany Society was less exclusive, and membership was easily acquired by those who were willing to promote its objects.

Under the astute management of Colonel Aaron Burr, one of the original members of the Cincinnati, the Tammany Society was gradually moulded into a political organization of great effective force in political conflicts.

The personal and political rivalries between General Alexander Hamilton, of the New York Society of the Cincinnati, representative of the Federal party, to which Washington, Adams, and the great majority of the Continental officers belonged, and Colonel Burr, the acknowledged leader in New York of the Republican, or Democratic, party of those days—a rivalry only terminated on the green sward of Weehawken—probably has occasioned the idea to which I have referred, that one of the objects of the founding of the Tammany Society was to oppose our own Order.

The diligent student of history, however, knows that, after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, the political work of the Cincinnati was accomplished before the Tammany Society was founded.

Political discussions have no place in our meetings, therefore I shall not sketch the career of the Tammany Society to the present day, because its history is one of politics and of political combinations.

The Tammany Society has had a varied and checkered career ; but I think this can be said of it, however, that at no time in its history has it ever been without a body of patriotic, earnest and honest men, and to-day it stands, for the time being, as the chief and controlling political power in the city of New York.

I thank you most cordially, on behalf of the Tammany Society, for proposing this time-honored and historic toast, and express to you its cordial welcome to the city of New York.





Eleventh Toast.



“THE PRESIDENT GENERAL AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CINCINNATI THROUGH-
OUT THE WORLD.”



Responded to by

The Hon. William Benning Webb,

President of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.



Mr. Chairman: I feel highly honored by being assigned the duty of responding to the sentiment just announced, but at the same time I must apologize for my inability to do it justice, and my entire want of preparation to say anything fitting a theme of so grave importance. What I say will be the utterance of my heartfelt admiration for the gentleman who has so long and so acceptably filled the office of President General of our Society, and my sincerity must make amends for whatever of feebleness may be exhibited in what I attempt to say. One of the first duties I was called on to perform as a member of the Maryland State Society of the Cincinnati was that of delegate to the Triennial Convention that met at Princeton in the summer of 1884. At that meeting our venerable President presided, and his dignity, gentleness, and unfailing fairness won the admiration of all who attended that memorable convention. It was my privi-

lege at that meeting to cast my vote for the re-election of the Hon. Hamilton Fish to the high office, the duties of which he had theretofore performed with such distinguished ability. None of us who were present on that occasion can forget the fitting, sad and tender speech with which this noble gentleman accepted the honor conferred upon him. In language so pathetic, that every man of us felt tears of sympathy welling to our eyes, he spoke of his advancing years, warning him as they did that he might not live out the term for which he was elected. He thanked us for the honor we did him as the greatest ever conferred upon him, because it placed him in the seat held by Washington, Hamilton, Pinckney, Morgan Lewis, and others equally distinguished, and with something of a protest against his continuance in the office, when so many younger men might have been chosen, he accepted.

Again, in 1887, I was honored by being selected as a delegate to represent the Maryland Society, and it was my good fortune to attend the convention that met at Newport that year. Here the sad announcement was made that the infirmities of accumulating years made the presence of our President General impossible, and with the announcement that he could no longer be a candidate for the presidency, the venerable gentleman urged us to give our ballots for some other and younger man. There was but one sentiment, however, among the delegates to that convention, and again I had the honor and the gratification of casting my ballot for that noble man who now fills the place of President General of our Society. His absence from our banquet to-night warns us that his infirmities have not lessened, that while with us in spirit his actions are hampered by the weakness of age. The State of Maryland has again honored me with her choice, and, if nothing prevents, I hope to attend the coming triennial convention of this Society at Baltimore in 1890. It is the sincerest wish of my heart that again I may be enabled to cast my ballot for the election of our most honorable and distinguished President General, and that he will feel himself able not only to accept, but to hold and fulfil the duties of that high office for many years to come. The office is a lofty one, and with it comes great dignity and honor. Aside from its

associations, aside from the fact that such men as Washington, Hamilton, Pinckney and Lewis have filled it, it is the highest place in an association constituted to keep alive in our country those exalted feelings of patriotism and that devotion to the principles that underlie our institutions, so characteristic of the great men who gained our liberties and framed our Constitution. Our President General has held high positions in the councils of our country, he has been the representative of a great State in our country's Senate and has sat at its cabinet councils, he has won distinction for himself and has done faithful service to the country, but nowhere has he won more honor, nowhere has he more fully emphasized his devotion to his country and the principles of its government than in the position he now holds as the President General of the Society of the Cincinnati. In everything that he has done he has manifested his devotion to the cause of true liberty and the principles embraced within the institute of that Society, and I know I but echo the feelings of all who hear me to-night when I wish for this venerable man a long continuance of his noble and honorable career.

Mr. Chairman, ours is no ordinary association united in the cause of simple benevolence or charity. We date back to the earliest days of our history as a people, and we stand pledged in no common way to keep the faith left us by our ancestors. Those glorious heroes, after a bloody conflict of eight years, fresh from vicissitudes, trials, dangers, cares and sorrows that tested their valor and proved their patriotism, having won the freedom of the colonies—united themselves in the association to “perpetuate as well the remembrance of that vast event, as the mutual friendships which were formed under the pressure of common dangers and in many instances cemented by the blood of the parties.” This is the great duty set us to do. We are bound by the same faith that controlled our ancestors, we are to keep alive not only the love of our country and its institutions inherited from our fathers, but by the very heritable character of our membership we are to perpetuate the friendships engendered among them by the dangers through which they braved their way to ultimate victory. Wherever we are, in whatever land, under whatever

circumstances placed, we meet as members of this Society, as friends bound by an inherited bond, that should strengthen as the years roll by. Time can never efface, nay, it can never dim the memory of the glorious deeds of those sires of whom we are so justly proud; it should never weaken if we are true men, that friendship for their comrades bequeathed to us so solemnly in the Preamble of our Institute. I feel proud to-night as I look around me at the representatives of the Revolutionary heroes now met to do honor to this grand centennial of our country. We rejoice together as no people ever rejoiced before over the fruits of our past, and while we shed a tear over the sad events that marked the early dawn of our liberties, we glory in the glad splendor of our country's noon-day. Let us again and again as we meet together renew this pledge of perpetual friendship, and let it be the proudest record we can leave behind us to those who are to inherit our membership that we have ever and always preserved unbroken the pledge of friendliness to our fellow members. And now, as we pledge ourselves in this sentiment to which I have attempted to respond, let us remember in all kindness and with a friendship that knows no selfish taint, the members of the Society of the Cincinnati, wherever they may be.





Twelfth Toast.



“THE ORIGINAL SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI—THE FORLORN HOPE IN ESTABLISHING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

“BY THEIR EXAMPLE MAY THEIR SUCCESSORS LABOR TO PRESERVE AND PERPETUATE THE LIBERTIES THAT THEIR PATRIOTISM ACQUIRED.”



Responded to by **Major Grant Weidman.**



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Society of the Cincinnati: The toast to which I have been called upon to respond is most worthy of being remembered. First proposed by General Burbeck, an original member of the Society, at a meeting of the Massachusetts Society on the 4th of July, 1848, it must be peculiarly gratifying to his worthy son and successor, who is with us this evening, to hear it recalled on this occasion, and its sentiment will meet with a hearty response from every member of the Cincinnati.

As citizens of the United States of to-day, it is, perhaps, difficult for us to fully understand and appreciate the situation of the original members of this Society of the Cincinnati at the time, and the circumstances under which the Society was instituted. We are all familiar with the history of the events

which preceded and led to its establishment, and it is unnecessary, therefore, to recount them now. Societies have been instituted and orders established to commemorate the power of kings and princes, and the deeds done in wars undertaken for conquest and like motives; but the Society of the Cincinnati was instituted for a nobler and better purpose.

Those who founded our Society had just passed through a long and bloody war, and during its progress had suffered hardships and privations untold, not for the sake of glory or personal advantage, but in the cause of civil and religious liberty, in defence of the rights of the people—the liberty of the citizen. They entered upon the contest with no thought of conquest. Pledging their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors, they joined together in the great struggle which established the independence of the United States of America from love of their country and devotion to liberty. Their work was ended; the independence of their country had been secured; the result which moved them to enter upon that long and bloody struggle which had just ended had been attained. They were ready to return to the avocations of civil life; to lay down their arms and resume their places among the citizens of the Republic they had founded.

At this time and under these circumstances the Society of the Cincinnati was instituted, in order that the principles for which its original members had battled might be ever fresh in memory, and that patriotism and love of liberty might always be honored among the citizens of the Republic. It is the proud boast of this Society that it was established, not to celebrate deeds in wars for glory or conquest, not to do honor to kings or princes, but to commemorate the triumph of civil and religious liberty, of freedom and independence, of the rights of man.

When we recall the condition of the thirteen colonies after the struggle for independence had so gloriously closed, and contemplate the greatness and power of the United States of to-day, may we not feel proud that we have descended from those noble patriots who were the original members of the Society of the Cincinnati? May the memory of their heroic

deeds ever be fresh in our minds ; may their example ever serve to nerve us to emulate them in their patriotic devotion to liberty and the rights of the people. They established the Independence of the United States of America ; may we always remember that it is our duty to “preserve and perpetuate the liberties that their patriotism acquired.”





Thirteenth Toast.



“PERPETUAL PEACE AND HAPPINESS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.”



Responded to by **Mr. David Greene Haskins, Jr.**



Mr. Chairman and Brothers of the Cincinnati: We are all looking backward this evening, and thinking with pride and gratitude of the wonderful growth and success of our beloved country in its first century of Federal union. I wonder if any one of us has tried to put himself in the place of Washington, and, standing in imagination where he stood at the close of the Revolution, to look, as he must have done, into the then unknown future.

Of course, we all know something of the weak, helpless, and disorganized condition of our infant republic before the adoption of the Constitution; but I think it is very difficult for us to-day to realize, to its full extent, the alarming and discouraging situation at that time.

A few impoverished States on the Atlantic coast, hemmed in by the vast territories of England, France and Spain; bound loosely together by a confederation that was every day losing its hold; a Congress powerless to compel the obedience of the States, and almost without influence to persuade them; a treasury so

low that the necessary expenses of the government could only be met by drawing on our foreign ministers ; a government too feeble to protect its citizens, even from the pirates of the Barbary States, and too poor to buy immunity from their ravages ; unable to check the alarming disagreements between certain States that threatened resort to physical force ; helpless at home and without influence abroad—this was the gloomy picture that Washington saw.

And, standing on the threshold of our national life, he may well have asked himself whether the Revolution had not, after all, been a failure ; and the hope with which he gazed into the future must have been mingled with grave doubt and apprehension.

It is pleasant to think how his noble soul would thrill with gratitude and joy if he could stand, to-night, in this gathering of his beloved Society, and view with us the wonders of the present, far beyond his most sanguine dreams.

And now, to-night, we, on our part, may well cast our eyes forward, and try to forecast the future, and to peer into the obscurity that envelops the second century. And I believe we may do so with firm hope, trusting to the continued protection and guidance of that Divine Providence which has so signally blessed us in the past. Of course, our age has its own peculiar faults and dangers : there is much in public and in private life to censure, and we sometimes look back with longing to the “good old times.” But, after all, I believe we idealize the past, and there really never were any good old times. The world is growing better, manners and morals are improving, the old patriotic flame burns as brightly as ever, and the heroes of Bunker Hill and Valley Forge were not a whit superior in courage or devotion to the men of the civil war. We have abuses enough to overthrow, reforms to accomplish, dangers and evil tendencies to contend against ; but, in spite of them all, the second century opens far more hopefully than did the first, and the imagination is baffled and bewildered in trying to picture its possible magnificent developments.

And we may also hope for a long and prosperous life for our honored Society. That, too, has had its day of discouragement,

when, in some few quarters, interest flagged and State Societies were dissolved or died out, from the dispersion of their members to remote localities. But to-day the Society is cherished and honored, and is steadily growing in strength; only we must be careful to guard the "Institution" as its founders created it, keeping as near, as the changed conditions will admit, to the spirit and purpose that animated them; and we must, above all else and under all circumstances, cherish that spirit of brotherly love, the perpetuity of which was the main object of the Society, and without which we cannot desire it to endure.

And so, inspired by the memories that this season brings, may we, Cincinnati, set our faces to the future, and, as we repeat the pious wish of the immortal Washington, may we, each in his sphere, however humble, labor as we can to promote the "peace and happiness of the United States of America."



The
Commemorative Services
of
The Cincinnati,
in
Saint Paul's Chapel,

April 28, 1889.



The Commemorative Services.



THE COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES of the Cincinnati were held in Saint Paul's Chapel,¹ on Broadway, in the city of New York, on April 28, 1889, the use of the chapel for this purpose having been granted by the Reverend Morgan Dix, D.D., D.C.L., Rector, and the Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Parish.

The Form of Service used was specially authorized for the occasion by the Diocesan, the Right Reverend Henry Codman Potter, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of New York, and was substantially that used by the Right Reverend Samuel Provoost, D.D., Bishop of New York, in Saint Paul's Chapel, for the service attended by President General Washington, on his inauguration as President of the United States, April 30, 1789.

¹ The Cincinnati frequently held commemorative services in Saint Paul's Chapel in the last century, notably on July 4, 1788, when the New York Society proceeded thither under escort of a brigade of militia to hear their annual oration by the Honorable William Duer.

In the following year, 4th July, 1789, under escort of a regiment of State artillery, the New York Society again went to Saint Paul's Chapel, where were assembled, by their invitation, the Vice-President and Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, to hear Brevet Colonel Alexander Hamilton's masterly oration on the life and services of Major-General Nathanael Greene. President General Washington could not be present, on account of sickness, but his family were there. However, on the 5th July, 1790, when the New York Society of Cincinnati proceeded to Saint Paul's Chapel, under escort of the same regiment of State artillery, to listen to their annual oration by Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Brockholst Livingston, one of their own members, President General Washington also attended, and Vice-President John Adams and the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, and many strangers of distinction, were present by invitation.

These are a few instances among a number which give Saint Paul's Chapel a peculiar place in the regard of the Order of the Cincinnati.

A number of the original members are buried in its churchyard, and, altogether, its connection with the Cincinnati has been such as almost to make it the chapel of the Order.

The chapel was appropriately and beautifully decorated for the occasion, under the superintendence of Colonel Richard T. Auchmuty, of the Vestry. On either side of the chancel were placed a stand of National colors, whose folds, on their pikes, reached to the floor.

They framed an effective display of flowers, which banked the altar and extended as high as the chancel window.

In the centre were two clusters of American Beauty roses in full bloom. Rising from them, on either side, were masses of white flowers, consisting of hydrangeas, roses, tuft, lilies-of-the-valley and hyacinths.

Then came ferns, tall standing plants and palms, which filled the space to the flags at the sides.

A National flag was draped at the top of each column supporting the gallery, the drapery being held in place, in each instance, by a small gilt eagle.

From the centre of the Choir gallery, two silken colors—the American flag of the Revolution, with thirteen stars on the blue field, and the Royal Standard of France in 1778–1783 (the white flag with the fleur-de-lis)—were displayed, their crossed pikes being held in place by a gilt eagle.

Each of the windows was decorated with palms and flowers, and each chandelier was trimmed with smilax and flowers.

Entrance to the chapel was by the west doors, facing Church street.

Over this entrance hung two National flags, the staffs of which were attached to the spire at the places where they were attached on Inauguration Day a hundred years before.

The porch at this entrance was shielded by striped canvas walls, within which were set palms and climbing vines, forming a framework of bright green.

The choir consisted of a double quartet and a well-drilled chorus.

By invitation of the Executive Committee, a large delegation of the Society of the “Sons of the Revolution,” with their President, the Honorable Frederick Samuel Tallmadge, and a large

representation of the "New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States," including many distinguished officers of the regular army and late United States Volunteer Service, attended, and were given reserved seats.

The front pews in the middle aisle were reserved for the Cincinnati.

The gentlemen who acted as ushers in seating the large and highly appreciative congregation, which filled the chapel to its utmost capacity, were Messrs. George Norman Gardiner, Latham G. Reed, George Gardiner Fry, Henry Russell Drowne, Henry Marion Ward, Clermont L. Clarkson, D. Augustus Clarkson, and Nathanael Greene, Jr., each of whom were descendants of Continental officers of the Revolution.

The Cincinnati assembled in the Parish House on Church street, corner of Vesey street, wearing the eagles of their order, and, at 10.30 o'clock, A.M., formed two by two, and, preceded¹ by the Secretary General, Presidents of State Societies and Assistant Treasurer General, in order of precedence, marched in a body through the churchyard to their seats in the chapel.

The choir then sang hymn 309, "God Bless our Native Land," as a processional, during which the officiating clergy appeared at the main entrance and proceeded to their places in the chancel.

The services were conducted by the Right Reverend William Stevens Perry, D.D. (*Oxon.*), LL.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Iowa (who preached the sermon), and by the Reverend Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, D.D., Chaplains General of the Order of the Cincinnati, assisted by the Reverend James Mulchahey, D.D., minister in charge of Saint Paul's Chapel, and his assistants, the Reverend William Augustus Holbrook and the Reverend William Montague Geer.

Reverend Doctor Pinckney acted as Gospeler; the Reverend Doctor Mulchahey, as Epistler; and Mr. Holbrook, lesson.

The *Te Deum Laudamus* was R. P. Stewart's, in E flat, for double chorus.

¹ The President General was unable, for reasons before stated, to attend.

The Vice-President General was abroad as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris.

At the *Introit*, the choir sang the three closing numbers of Handel's oratorio of "Belshazzar:" "Tell it Out among the Nations;" "Yes, I will Build Thy City;" "I will Magnify Thee, O God, my King."

For the offertory, Sir John Stainer's duet, for soprano and tenor, "Love Divine, all Love Excelling," was sung.



Form of Service.



The following was the form of service used on this occasion :

¶ *The Minister shall begin the Service by reading the following Sentences of Scripture :*

THE Lord has been mindful of us, and He shall bless us ; He shall bless them that fear the Lord, both small and great.—*Ps.* cxv. : 12, 13.

O that men would therefore praise the Lord for his goodness, and declare the wonders that he doeth for the children of men.—*Ps.* cvii. : 21.

Minister. Let us pray.

¶ *Then shall the Minister and people say, all kneeling :*

OUR Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name ; Thy Kingdom come ; Thy will be done on Earth, As it is in Heaven ; Give us this day our daily bread ; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us ; And lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil ; For Thine is the Kingdom, And the Power, And the Glory, Forever and ever. Amen.

¶ *Then likewise he shall say :*

O Lord, open Thou our lips.

Answer. And our mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

Min. O God, make speed to save us.

Ans. O Lord, make haste to help us.

¶ *Here, all standing up, the Minister shall say :*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

Ans. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Min. Praise ye the Lord.

Ans. The Lord's Name be praised.

¶ *Then shall be sung the following Anthem :*

Misericordias Domini.

MY Song shall be alway of the loving-kindness of the Lord : with my Mouth will I ever be showing Thy Truth from one generation to another.—*Ps.* lxxxix. : 1.

The merciful and gracious Lord hath so done His marvellous Works : that they ought to be had in remembrance—*Ps.* cxi. : 4.

Who can express the noble Acts of the Lord ; or show forth all His praise ?—*Ps.* cxi. , 2.

The Works of the Lord are great ; sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.—*Ps.* cxi. : 2.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins : nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.

For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth : so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.—*Ps.* ciii. : 10, 11.

Glory be to the Father, etc.

¶ *Then shall be said or sung* Psalm cxviii.

¶ *Then shall be read the Lesson,* Deut. viii.

¶ *Then shall be sung the* Te Deum.

¶ *Then shall be said the Apostles' Creed :*

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried, He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

¶ *And after that, these Prayers following, all devoutly kneeling; the Minister first pronouncing :*

The Lord be with you :

Ans. And with thy spirit.

Min. Let us pray.

O Lord, show Thy mercy upon us ;

Ans. And grant us Thy salvation.

Min. O Lord, bless and preserve these United States ;

Ans. And mercifully hear us when we call upon Thee.

Min. Endue Thy ministers with righteousness ;

Ans. And make Thy chosen people joyful.

Min. O God, make clean our hearts within us ;

Ans. And take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for the Day.

ALMIGHTY God, Who hast in all ages showed forth Thy power and mercy in the preservation of Thy Church, and in the protection of all who put their sure trust in Thee ; Grant that the people of this land, which Thou hast so blessed, may show forth their thanks and praise for Thy mercies, by loving obedience to Thy laws ; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace.

O GOD, Who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of Whom standeth our eternal life, Whose service is perfect freedom ; Defend us, Thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies ; that we, surely trusting in Thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries ; Through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Grace.

O LORD our Heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, Who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day ; Defend us in the same with Thy mighty power ; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger ; but that all our doings may, by Thy governance, be righteous in Thy sight ; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for our Civil Rulers.

O LORD our Heavenly Father, the high and mighty ruler of the Universe, Who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth ; Most heartily we beseech Thee with Thy favor to behold THE PRESIDENT, and all in authority, executive, legislative, and judicial, in these United States ; And so replenish them with the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that they may always incline to Thy will, and walk in Thy way. Endue them plenteously with heavenly gifts ; grant them in health and wealth long to live ; and finally, after this life, to attain everlasting joy and felicity ; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Special Thanksgiving.

O GOD, Whose Name is excellent in all the earth, and Whose glory is above the heavens, and Who didst, as on this day, inspire and direct the hearts of our forefathers in laying the strong foundations of peace, liberty, and safety for our nation ; we bless and adore Thy glorious Majesty for this Thy loving kindness towards us. And we humbly pray that the devout sense of Thy signal mercies to our land may renew and increase in us a spirit of love and thankfulness to Thee, the Author of all good, and a spirit of true devotion to the welfare of our country. May we so improve Thine inestimable blessings, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established among us for all generations. This we beg through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

A General Thanksgiving.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, Thine unworthy servants, do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men. We bless Thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life ; but above all, for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech Thee, give us that due sense of all Thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth Thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives ; by giving up ourselves to Thy service, and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, Who hast given us grace at this time to make our common supplications unto Thee ; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in Thy Name, Thou wilt grant their requests ; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of Thy servants, as may be most expedient for them ; granting us in this world knowledge of Thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

2 Cor. xiii.: 14.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*



The Sermon.



The following is the sermon delivered during this service by the Right Reverend WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY, D. D. (*Oxon.*), LL. D., D. C. L., Bishop of Iowa, and a Chaplain General of the Order of the Cincinnati.



"My strength will I ascribe unto Thee; for Thou art the God of my refuge."

—Ps. lix.: 9 (Prayer-Book Version).



From the Psalms of David,—the liturgy of the Holy Ghost,—the praise-service of the people, and the language of individual thanksgiving, for the Church of old, and the Church of to-day, as well, we take the text with which we would consecrate our theme: "My strength will I ascribe unto Thee; for Thou art the God of my refuge." The Christian recognizes the hand of God guiding, controlling, supporting him in all his ways. The Christian patriot ascribes his country's strength, its support in adversity, its deliverance from troubles, its triumph over its foes, unto the God of nations, Who is the refuge of those who trust in Him.

Strikingly was this the feeling of our fathers at the period of our history we recall to-day. The appeal to arms, out of which our independence was won, our nationality secured, was an appeal to Heaven for the defense and triumph of the right. Those who directed our councils, those who fought our battles in the war for independence, reverently ascribed their strength unto God, and looked to Him as their refuge. The deep religious enthusiasm of the Puritans of New England and the Churchmen of the Middle and Southern States cannot be overlooked or ignored in any recital of the story of our struggle for freedom. The patriot priest of the Valley of the Shenandoah, who, at the close of a fervid appeal to his people to resist op-

pression even unto blood, threw off his surplice and stood forth before his parishioners in the garb of a soldier, ready to lead them to the field, was but a single example of a wide-spread feeling animating clergy and people alike in entering upon a strife in which God alone could give to them, in their weakness, the victory. Prayer consecrated every step of our forefathers in their efforts for freedom. The pulpit uttered no uncertain sound in its emphatic teaching that resistance to tyrants was obedience to God. The priest went with his people to the field of battle, and priest and people reverently ascribed their strength to the God of their refuge.

The words and example of these patriot priests and preachers produced a profound impression on the minds of those who listened to the one, or felt the force of the other. Arousing, as they did, a quiet but sustained determination, giving to the strife the consecration of a holy war, there was needed only a new Joshua to lead forth the Israel of God out of bondage, into the glorious liberty of freemen in the sight of God and men. This leader, chosen of God for this very purpose, and mysteriously trained for the work assigned him of Heaven to do, was given. Those who, in their conscious weakness, ascribed their strength unto God and recognized Him as their refuge, were not disappointed in their deep religious reliance. One was raised up to be a leader of the people, and the trust in God which inspired them was the animating principle of his life—the crowning glory of his career.

It was a Heaven-decreed requirement of the Hebrew law that the husbandman, when gathering the harvestings of his field, should leave here and there sheaves of the rich, ripe grain for those who should follow in his path—those less favored by Providence, less supplied with Nature's gifts. It is as a gleaner that I venture to-day to follow in the track of so many older, wiser, and more eloquent panegyrists of our Washington's character, and to bind a few golden grains dropped from their richer handfuls, and lay them as a votive tribute on the altar sacred to his memory. Though conscious of my inability to do justice to the occasion or the theme now thrilling all patriotic souls with memories of the past and good auguries

for the future of our loved native land, I cannot but feel the appropriateness and the beauty of this gathering and this commemoration to-day. Fitting is it, for it becomes us to remember the Founder of our Order, the Father of his Country. We are sons of the sires,—we fill the places, bear the names, wear the coveted distinction of those who gathered as more than friends about the hero of our war for independence, who were his companions in danger, and who were his loyal supporters in the peace following successful war. Rightly does it fall to us, members of the Order of the Cincinnati, to give to this great national celebration its key-note, anticipating all the land in the grateful recognition of the God-given example of him who was first in war, first in peace, and who shall ever be first in the hearts of his countrymen.

Fitting indeed it is that at the expiration of a hundred years, we should pause on the threshold of a new period of national existence to inquire whence came our fathers' strength, and to thank the God Who was their refuge, and Who blessed them with unlooked-for success.

There is a beauty in this act of ours. We turn aside from our accustomed acts of prayer and praise, to renew, in this consecrated spot where our honorable Order was wont of old to meet for solemn services of praise and prayer, our allegiance to principles for which our fathers shed their blood, and to offer thanksgivings to our God, through Whom the principles of our Order have been maintained and established for a hundred years. In our grateful recognition of the greatness of our Washington, we gladly recall the fact that it was his trust in God that made him what he was—"of all great men, the most virtuous and the most fortunate."¹ Not merely as a soldier, not alone as a patriot, not simply because a hero, but as a Christian, fearing God and keeping His Commandments, we accord to "this imperial man,"—"this unblemished gentleman," our grateful remembrance to-day.

At such a time as this, and on this sacred day, we may well consider the evidence afforded in the life and deeds and words of Washington to his personal trust in God; his walking in

¹ Guizot.

God's ways, and his keeping of God's commandments, Born at a time, when, in his home and family, the greatest reverence was shown to the forms and usages of religion, the record of his baptism is still extant, and there is no reason to doubt that he, who, at the font in the old Pope's Creek Church was made "a member of Christ, the Child of God, and an inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven," was, by the pious care and teachings of parents and god-parents, instructed not alone in "the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments," but in those "other parts of the Church's Catechism" which a child "ought to know and believe to his soul's health." It was at a time when the training and disciplining of the home took the place of the public school or the academy of a later day, and so, up to his twelfth year, the young Washington had the loving care and oversight of his parents. On the death of his excellent father, this care devolved upon his mother and his uncle; and, in addition to this home training and the instruction received in the old field school, kept by the sexton of the parish church, it is probable that he attended the ministrations of the Rev. Archibald Campbell, the uncle of the poet, and was, possibly, a pupil at his school in Washington Parish, Westmoreland County. While with his mother at Fredericksburg, there can be no question of his attendance upon the services of her faithful parish priest, the Rev. James Mayre, whose Huguenot blood and personal consecration made him one of the most devoted of the clergy of the day. While at school the young Virginian was noticeable for his abhorrence of the practice of fighting among the boys, and was wont, by personal influence, or by more direct interference, to prevent indulgence in this brutal pastime. At the age of thirteen, he drew up from works he had read, a number of resolutions for the conduct of his life. We find among these aphorisms the following: "When you speak of God or His attributes, let it be seriously in reverence;" "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience;" "Honor and obey your parents, whatever may be their condition." Two years later his filial piety was shown in his relinquishment, at his mother's desire, of his

purpose of entering the British navy, in strict fulfillment of this latter resolution, based on "the Commandment with promise."

Besides the Bible, with which he was singularly familiar, and the Bible's best interpreter, the Book of Common Prayer, Washington had listened at his mother's knee, if we may credit tradition, to the reading of such suggestive works as "Discourses on the Common Prayer," and Sir Matthew Hale's "Contemplations, Moral and Divine." The latter work, well styled by Washington Irving "a precious volume," is still preserved at Mount Vernon, and the same authority assures us that "its admirable maxims sank deep in the mind of Washington, and were exemplified in his conduct through life."

The youth thus trained proved worthy of his teachers and true to the lessons of religion and morality they taught. We are not surprised to find him, in his early manhood, when at the head of an expedition against the French and savages, counselled by his "paternal adviser," Mr. William Fairfax of Belvoir, in these words: "I will not doubt your having public prayer in the camp, especially when the Indian families are your guests, that they, seeing your plain manner of worship, may have their curiosity to be informed why we do not use the ceremonies of the French; which, being well explained to their understandings, will more and more dispose them to receive our Baptism and unite in strict bonds of cordial friendship." This was in the camp at Fort Necessity, at the Great Meadows, in the Alleghany Mountains, and it was certainly, as Irving well describes it, "not one of the least striking pictures presented in this wild campaign—the youthful commander, presiding with calm seriousness over a motley assemblage of half-equipped soldiery, leathern-clad hunters and woodsmen, and painted savages with their wives and children, and uniting them all in solemn devotion by his own example and demeanor."¹

For several consecutive years, Washington was engaged in this border warfare, and during this period, according to the

¹ Vol. I., page 129.

testimony of one of his aids, he was accustomed to read prayers on Sunday to his troops, thus supplying the place of a chaplain. On the recall of Governor Dinwiddie, Washington addressed the President of the Council in these words: "The Assembly, in their Supply Bill, provided for a chaplain to our regiment. On this subject I had often, without any success, applied to Governor Dinwiddie. I now flatter myself that your honor will be pleased to appoint a sober, serious man for this duty. Common decency, sir, in a camp, calls for the services of a divine, which ought not to be dispensed with although the world may think us void of religion and incapable of good instruction." We are all familiar with the fact of his reading by the light of a torch at night the Office for the Burial of the Dead, over the body of General Braddock, after the disastrous defeat at Monongahela; and we cannot for a moment doubt the personal trust in God of the man who in writing familiarly of this battle to his brother could say: "By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all probability or expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat and two horses shot under me, and yet escaped unhurt."

In 1759 Washington married, and, in the same year, took his seat in the House of Burgesses. He became, at the outset of his domestic life, interested in the promotion of the interests of the Church; and the old vestry-book of Truro parish affords abundant proof of his personal share in the erection of those historic shrines known as Payne's and Pohick Churches. We find the young vestryman and churchwarden occupied in sending a friend and neighbor to England for holy orders, in procuring a glebe, and in fitting up a home for the newly-chosen pastor and priest. It is in keeping with his interest in the work of his parish that we learn of his gifts for the adornment of the church, the site of which he himself had chosen; and of his importation from England of pulpit cushions and altar cloths of crimson velvet with gold fringe, and folio Prayer Books, bound sumptuously in morocco, and lettered in gilt with the parish name.

While thus occupied in promoting the temporal interests of

the Church, it is the testimony of his rector, the Rev. Lee Massey, that he was equally attentive to his spiritual duties. "I never knew," writes the Rev. Mr. Massey, "so constant an attendant on church as Washington. His behavior in the house of God was ever so reverential that it produced the happiest effect on my congregation, and greatly assisted me in my pulpit labors. No company ever kept him from church." Abundant testimony is given that he was a frequent and devout recipient of the holy communion of the body and blood of Christ.

In 1774 the House of Burgesses appointed a day of fasting and prayer, in view of the state of the country, and the private diary of Washington contained this entry: "June 1, Wednesday. Went to church and fasted all day." In September of this eventful year, Washington was in Philadelphia in attendance upon the Continental Congress, to which he was a delegate. His diary records his regular attendance at church; and tradition tells us that at the calling in of the celebrated Rev. Jacob Duché, the rector of Christ Church and St. Peter's, to read prayers before this Congress, at perhaps the most critical moment of its deliberations, Washington alone of the delegates knelt when the Church's familiar words of supplication were used.

On the very day after taking command of the Continental Army, in 1775, the following order was issued: "The General requires and expects of all officers and soldiers not engaged in actual duty, a punctual attendance on Divine service, to implore the blessings of Heaven upon the means used for our safety and defence." On the 15th of May, 1776, Congress having appointed a day of humiliation and prayer, the following order was given: "The General commands all officers and soldiers to pay strict obedience to the order of the Continental Congress, that by their unfeigned and pious observance of their religious duties they may incline the Lord and Giver of victory to prosper our arms." He forbade gambling, drunkenness, and profanity—"wicked practices hitherto but little known in the American Army," adding, "We can have but little hope of the blessing of God if we insult Him by our blasphemies, vices so

low and without temptation that every man of sense and character detests them."

In anticipation of an impending battle, he thus addresses his soldiers: "The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of the army. Let us rely upon the goodness of the cause, and the aid of the Supreme Being, in Whose hand victory is, to animate and encourage us to noble actions."

In a letter to Benjamin Harrison, a fellow Virginian and Churchman, in 1778, he says: "Providence has heretofore taken care of us when all other means seemed to be departing from us."

We find him referring his successes to "that Divine Providence which has manifestly appeared in our behalf during our whole struggle;" while in alluding to his reverses he adds: "All would have been lost but for that bountiful Providence which has never failed us in the hour of distress." Again he writes: "The hand of Providence has been so conspicuous that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations."

On the proclamation of peace, in the year 1783, memorable as the year of the inauguration of our illustrious Order, the General called upon the Chaplains of the forces "to render thanks to God for His overruling the wrath of man to His own glory, and causing the rage of war to cease." A few months later he concluded a letter to the Governors of the States with the "earnest prayer that God may have you and the States over which you preside in His holy protection; that He would incline the citizens to obedience to government, to entertain a brotherly love for one another, for their fellow-citizens of the United States in general, and particularly for those who have served in the field; that He would be pleased to dispose them to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean themselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, without an humble imitation of Whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation."

On the 30th of April, A.D. 1789, in his inaugural address to both Houses of Congress, the Father of his Country used these words :

“It would be peculiarly improper to omit, in this first official act, my fervent supplication to that Almighty Being, who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aid can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States, a government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes, and may enable every instrument employed in its administration to execute with success the functions allotted to his charge. In tendering this homage to the great Author of every public and private good, I assure myself that it expresses your sentiments not less than my own; nor those of my fellow-citizens at large, less than either. No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible Hand, which conducts the affairs of men, more than the people of the United States.

“Every step, by which they had advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency. And, in the important revolution just accomplished in the system of their united government, the tranquil deliberations and voluntary consent of so many distinct communities, from which the event has resulted, cannot be compared with the means by which most governments have been established, without some return of pious gratitude, along with an humble anticipation of the future blessings which the past seems to presage.”

Referring again, at the close of his address, to his sense of dependence on Almighty God, he used this language :

“Having thus imparted to you my sentiments, as they have been awakened by the occasion which brings us together, I shall take my present leave, but not without resorting once more to the benign Parent of the human race, in humble supplication that, since He has pleased to favor the American people with opportunities for deliberating in perfect tranquility, and dispositions for deciding with unparalleled unanimity on a form of government for the security of their Union, and the advancement of their happiness; so His divine blessing may be equally conspicuous in the enlarged views, the temperate consultations, and the wise measures on which the success of this government must depend.”

And in responding to the answer of the Senate to his speech, he further added :

“Thus, supported by a firm trust in the Great Arbiter of the universe, aided by the collected wisdom of the Union, and imploring the divine benediction on our joint exertions in the service of our country, I readily engage with you on the arduous but pleasing task of attempting to make a nation happy.”

Language such as this—like recognition of a superintending Providence—occurs again and again in his addresses, the gene-

ral orders, the private letters, the diaries, the personal memoranda of Washington. They are the expressions of an individual trust in God, which, shown in his earliest years and displayed throughout his public career, was strikingly affirmed in that "Farewell Address" which was his invaluable legacy to his countrymen. It is among his last councils, written at a time when infidelity was rampant, and the Church, of which he was a baptized and communing member, was reduced to its lowest straits, that we have this expression of Washington's profound conviction of the necessity of religion and the evil tendency of unbelief :

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and Morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked, where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles."—*Farewell Address*.

To these outspoken attestations of his personal trust in God as his strength and refuge, we may add the testimony of those who knew him best, the members of his family and household, the intimate associates of his public and private life, that he was, as his friend and biographer, Chief-Justice Marshall, asserts, "a sincere believer in the Christian faith and a truly devout man." His reverence for the Lord's day, his habitual reading of the Word of God, his daily private meditation and prayer, his unostentatious but abundant charities, his regular attendance at church, and his reception from time to time of the holy communion of the body and blood of Christ afford additional proof, if further proof were wanting, of his possession, to use his own phrase, "of genuine vital religion."

Is it to be wondered, then, that when the "last enemy" came the patriot could say, "I am not afraid to go"? The strength which had been his through life was not to fail him now. His

place of refuge was in the Everlasting Arms. The Word of God was on his bed when he died. She who so often shared with him the holiest offices of their common faith ministered to his dying wants. His last words were, "'Tis well." He closed his own eyes, folded his arms across his breast and "fell asleep."

Our view of the character of our Founder would be incomplete without allusion to the sagacity and patriotism with which he sought the consolidation of the union between the States by the adoption of the Constitution, under which, with slight changes, we have been so strikingly blessed and prospered by God for a hundred years. It is as the true founder of the constitutional union of the United States that we may accord to our Washington our grateful remembrance to-day. As the leader of the Continental Army—as the one man of all others highest in the confidence of all classes of his countrymen, we may say with the historian Bancroft, "Without him the Union would never have been formed." More than any other man he did to win for us our independence. To this he added the further glory of making that freedom worthy of our possessing, in securing for us the Constitution and the Union of the States. True to his country; true to his trust in God, who was his strength and his refuge; true to training and to himself, what more can we add to our tribute of grateful praise to God for the Christian character and consistent patriotism of Washington?

I have alluded to the appropriateness of our assembling in this house of God, where, in the early days of the republic, our fathers, members of the Order of the Cincinnati, were wont to meet in recognition of the glory and goodness of their God. Here, on the Fourth of July, 1788, the members of our Order listened to the earnest and eloquent words of William Duer. Here, on the Fourth of July, 1789, our own Hamilton, *clarum et venerabile nomen*, delivered an eulogium on Nathanael Greene before a brilliant assembly, the President being prevented by severe illness from attending, but Lady Washington and family occupying yonder pew, ever sacred to patriotic memories.

On Monday, July 5, 1790, the President General of the Society and President of the United States, our beloved Washing-

ton, attended here the oration of Henry Brockholst Livingston, on themes appropriate to the day. Again and again have the members of our honorable Order assembled here in recognition of their trust in God, who was their strength and refuge ; and around these sacred walls many of our well remembered and illustrious dead await in the dust of the earth the resurrection to eternal life.

Ah ! Brethren, we at least will ascribe our strength unto God who was our fathers' refuge, and whose love and care will not fail us now or in the time to come. The share taken by our Order in the adoption and support of the Constitution of our beloved native land is not to be overlooked on a day and at a time like this. From the period of its institution in the year of peace, 1783, to the day of the inauguration of its President General as President of the United States, the Order of the Cincinnati was the only organization in the land devoted to "promoting and cherishing between the respective States that *Union and National Honor*, so essentially necessary to their happiness and to the future dignity of the American empire." This, the only political principle incorporated in the original "Institution" of our honorable Order, found its realization in the adoption of the Constitution under which God has been our strength and refuge for a hundred memorable years.

To-day, Brothers of the Cincinnati, we reverently ascribe unto our fathers' God and our own the praise and glory due unto His holy Name. Mindful of the strength He gave to our sires of old, and the refuge He has been in our times of trouble, we will praise and bless and magnify Him forever. We will ascribe unto Him worship as well as strength. The principles for which our fathers fought, the freedom secured to us by their labors and their lives ; the lessons of trust in God and recognition of an all-wise and all-loving Father's care and guidance ;—these shall be ours as patriots, as Christian sons of Christian sires, in the years to come. As God has blessed our fathers, so will we ask His blessing on ourselves and on those who shall come after us till in the spread of freedom, limited only by the decrees of immutable right, of liberty protected and preserved by law, the land for which our fathers lived and

died shall be indeed time's noblest offspring if its last—the realization of the dreams of Christian patriots, the ideal commonwealth, outlasting empires and dynasties, and ending only when the world itself shall have passed away.



The celebration for the three following days consisted of a reception of the President and Vice-President of the United States, Cabinet, and Justices of the Supreme Court, by the Committee on Navy of the General Centennial Committee, on the United States steamer "Despatch," at Elizabethport, New Jersey, and a great naval review of the United States ships of war and mercantile marine in the upper harbor of New York, followed by the disembarkation of the President and suite at Wall Street Ferry, where the Committee on States, with a special military escort and the "Society of the Sons of the Revolution," received them and escorted them to the Lawyers' Club, where the President was given a reception which was participated in by the Governors and Commissioners of States and Territories and other official personages and citizens of distinction.

On the same evening a ball was given at the Metropolitan Opera House.

For the next day, April 30, 1889, special services were held at the site of the Old Federal Hall, corner of Nassau and Wall Streets, and at Saint Paul's Chapel; followed by a great military review by the President, Hon. Benjamin Harrison, of the battalions of the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Regular Army, and Uniformed Militia and National Guard forces of the several States, followed by a ball at the Metropolitan Opera House in the evening.

For the next day, May 1, 1889, a civic display and review of trade and labor organizations, college and other associations, followed by a special banquet to the President at the Metropolitan Opera House in the evening.

For all these ceremonial reviews and entertainments, the General Committee of the Centennial invited the Society of the Cincinnati to send an official representation.

This official representation was as follows:

The Hon. Hamilton Fish, LL.D., President General of the Cincinnati, eldest son of Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Nicholas Fish, Second Regiment New York Continental Line of the Revolution.

Hon. Asa Bird Gardiner, LL.D., Secretary General of the Cincinnati, great-grandson of Ensign Reuben Willard, Twenty-fourth Regiment Continental Foot, and grand-nephew of First Lieutenant and Regimental Quartermaster Jonathan Willard, First Regiment New Hampshire Continental Infantry.

Mr. John Schuyler, Treasurer General of the Cincinnati, great-grandson of Major-General Philip Schuyler of the Continental Army of the Revolution.

The Hon. Samuel Crocker Cobb, President of the Massachusetts State Society of the Cincinnati, grandson of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. David Cobb of Massachusetts, Aide-de-Camp to General Washington to the close of the Revolution.

Mr. Henry Thayer Drowne, of the Rhode Island State Society of the Cincinnati, grandson of Surgeon Solomon Drowne, M.D., LL.D., of the Rhode Island Continental Line, *vice* the Hon. Nathanael Greene, President of that State Society, who was unable to attend, grandson of Major-General Nathanael Greene of the Revolution.

The Hon. Clifford Stanley Sims, President of the New Jersey State Society, great-grandson of Major John Ross, M.D., Second Regiment New Jersey Continental Infantry.

The Hon. William Wayne, President of the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati, great-grandson of Major-General Anthony Wayne of the Continental Army of the Revolution.

Colonel Oswald Tilghman, of the Maryland State Society of the Cincinnati, grandson of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Tench Tilghman, Aide-de-Camp to General Washington to the close of the Revolution, *vice* ex-Governor Robert Milligan McLane, President of that State Society, who was abroad, grandson of Captain Allan McLane, of the Delaware Continental Line of the Revolution, who served in the Second Battalion Continental Partizan Legion.

The Rev. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, D. D., President of the South Carolina State Society of the Cincinnati, grandson of Major Thomas Pinckney, First Regiment South Carolina Continental Infantry of the Revolution, afterwards Major-General of the United States Army and President General of the Cincinnati; also grand-nephew of Brevet Brigadier-General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, First Regiment South Carolina Continental Infantry of the Revolution, afterwards also Major-General of the United States Army and President General of the Society of the Cincinnati, in succession to Major-General Alexander Hamilton, LL. D.

The Chairman of the Committee on Navy, on behalf of that Committee, invited all the members of the Cincinnati present at the commemoration to witness the Naval Review of April 29, and accompany the U. S. steamer "Despatch," on board the magnificent steamer "Sirius," which had been placed at the disposal of the Committee on Navy for their own special invited guests, including President Harrison's and Vice-President Levi P. Morton's families.

Most of the members accepted this invitation, and were handsomely entertained on board on behalf of the Navy Committee, this trip proving one of the most agreeable incidents of the entire celebration.

The Chairman of the Committee on States, Mr. William Gaston Hamilton (grandson of Alexander Hamilton), on behalf of that Committee, invited all the members of the Cincinnati present at the commemoration to witness the Naval Review on board the large steamer "Erastus Wiman," which had been

placed at the disposal of his Committee by the Committee on Navy for accommodation of Governors and Commissioners of States and other official personages and guests.

The Chairman of the Committee on States, on behalf of that Committee, also invited all the Cincinnati present to the reception at the Lawyers' Club, and to accompany the President and suite and Governors and Commissioners from Wall Street Ferry to that reception.

Accordingly, on disembarking at Wall Street Ferry, the Cincinnati formed two by two and accompanied the President and suite under escort to the Lawyers' Club, taking position in line immediately after Governors of States and Territories, according to the precedent established by the Congress of the United States at the celebration of the completion of the Washington Monument, at the Capitol, 22d February, 1885.

For the great military review of April 30th and civic review of May 1st, 1889, the Chairman of the Committee on Navy procured from the Committee on Army, cards of admittance to the grand stands for such of the Cincinnati as desired to witness them, and nearly all availed themselves of the opportunity.

For the Loan Exhibition of historical portraits and relics at the Metropolitan Opera House, the Chairman of the Committee on Navy procured from the Committee on Art and Exhibition cards of admission for such members as desired to avail themselves of it.

With the conclusion of this notable National Commemoration and Celebration of an event of the highest importance to the welfare and happiness of the people of the United States, the Cincinnati had the pleasing consciousness that they had adequately and appropriately performed their duty in the premises.

finis.

Committees on the Centennial Celebration, April 30, 1889,
of the
Inauguration of George Washington as President
of the United States.

HAMILTON FISH,* PRESIDENT.

HUGH J. GRANT, CHAIRMAN.

ELBRIDGE T. GERRY, CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CLARENCE W. BOWEN, SECRETARY.

No. 1.—PLAN AND SCOPE.

HUGH J. GRANT, *Chairman*,
ABRAM S. HEWITT,
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CORNELIUS N. BLISS,
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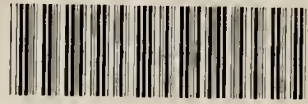




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